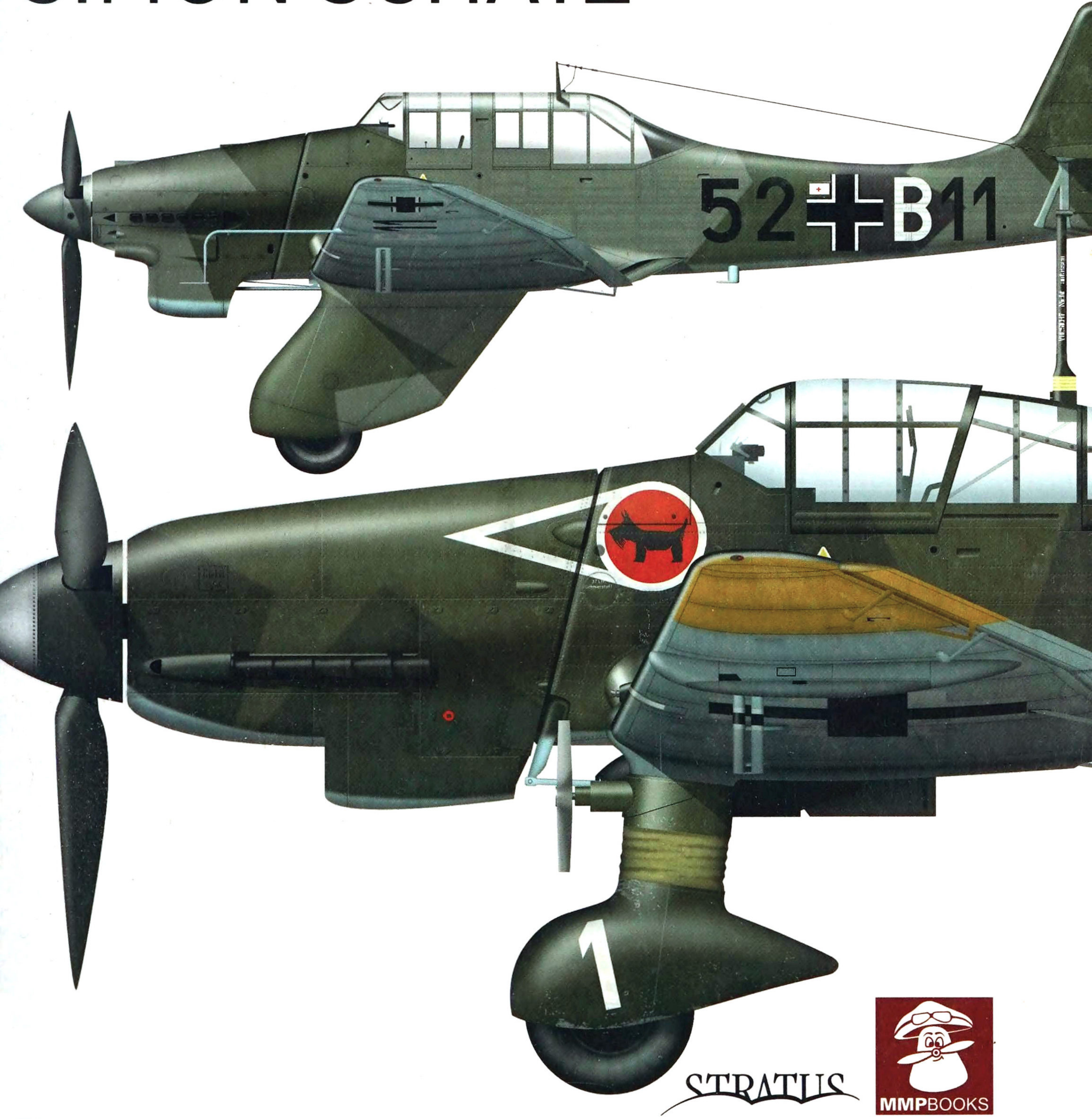
SPOTLIGHT ON

Junkers Ju 87 Stuka

SIMON SCHATZ



STRATUS
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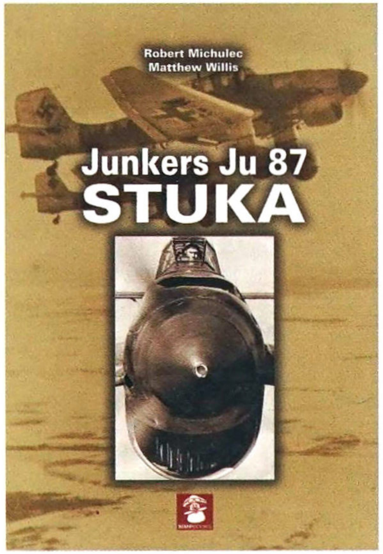
Junkers Ju 87 *Sturzkampfflugzeug “Stuka“*

Simon Schatz

Introduction

After the First World War and the Treaty of Versailles, Germany was forbidden to maintain an air force. Nevertheless, civilian training schools were used to train military pilots under the strictest secrecy in the 1920s and 1930s. In the summer of 1933 bombing tests were carried out in level flight with the then available aircraft. Since the results were unsatisfactory, a new aircraft was required to be developed, which could hit targets by bombing in a dive. In the autumn of 1933 *Dipl.-Ing.* Hermann Pohlmann (of Junkers) made the first preliminary designs for a new dive bomber, also called “Stuka”. In April 1934, the “Department of Aviation Equipment of the German Army Weapons Agency” (*Abteilung Flugtechnik im Heereswaffenamt*) sent a tender for an aeroplane with exactly these properties. At the same time the Heinkel He 118 and Arado Ar 81 were developed alongside the Ju 87. In the summer of 1934 Junkers finished a 1:1 mock-up, which was inspected in September 1934 by senior officials of the Ministry of Aviation (RLM). The Junkers Ju 87V1, W.Nr. 4921 was first flown by Captain Willi Neuenhofen on 17 September, 1935. The plane, which was still equipped with a double vertical tail, was lost on 24 January 1936 during a crash, in which the crew lost their lives. The comparative trials of the Ju 87 and its competitors in 1936 was won by the Ju 87. During the Spanish Civil War the first experiences under realistic conditions were collected with the Ju 87V4. In the subsequent years of the Second World War the Ju 87 was continually refined to meet wartime requirements.



For more historical background please purchase:
Junkers Ju 87 STUKA 2nd Revised edition
Robert Michulec and Matthew Willis.
Mushroom Model Publications
ISBN-10: 8365281120
ISBN-13: 978-8365281128

About the colours

The Junkers Ju 87 aircraft were painted with standardised paints. The colours of the paints were registered by the RLM (*Reichs Luftfahrt Ministerium*). It was precisely determined where and when the colours had to be used.

Pre-war planes were painted in

- ■ RLM 61 *Dunkelbraun* (Dark Brown)
- ■ RLM 62 *Grün* (Green)
- ■ RLM 63 *Grüngrau* (Green-Grey)
- ■ RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue)

Standard wartime planes were painted in

- ■ RLM 70 *Scharzgrün* (Black Green)
- ■ RLM 71 *Dunkelgrün* (Dark Green)
- ■ RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue)

Planes for the African War Theatre were painted in

- ■ RLM 79 *Sandgelb* (Sand-Yellow)
- ■ RLM 80 *Olivgrün* (Olive Green)
- ■ RLM 78 *Blau* (Blue)

References

All the profiles are based on published photographs. Sources can be found below each colour profile.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Maciej Noszczak for the kind permission to use his great linedrawings as the basis for my colour profiles. I would like to thank, posthumously, Manfred Griehl (†) for supporting me with information and photographs about the Ju 87 in past years. Also I want to thank Stratus and Mushroom Model Publications for the opportunity to publish my Ju 87 profiles.

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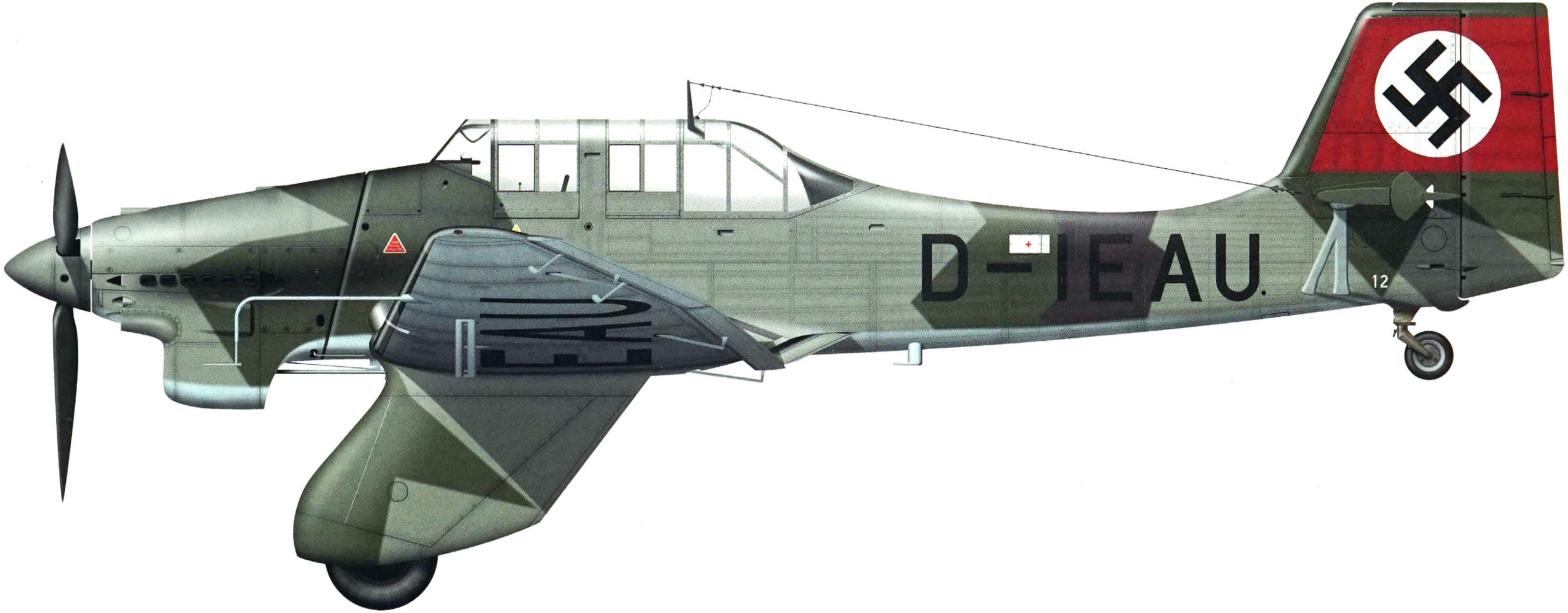
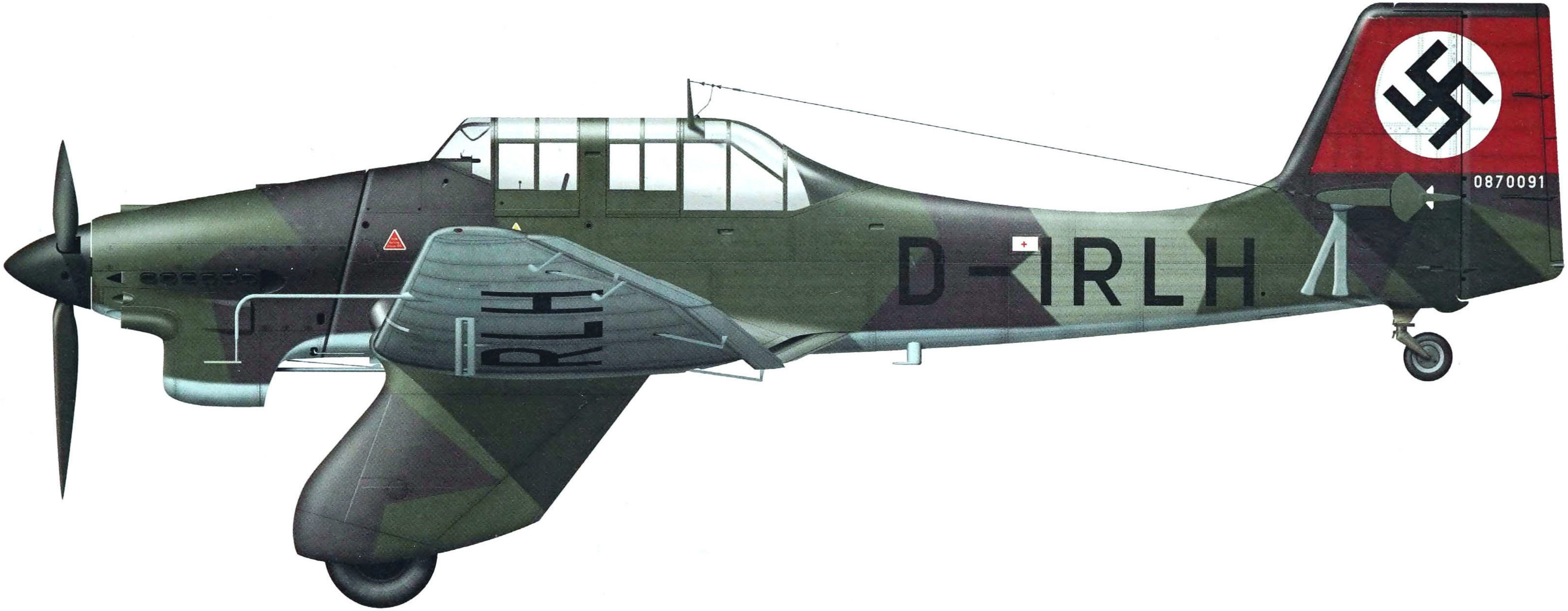


Junkers Ju 87A-1, W.Nr. 0012 with the civil registration D-IEAU.

Dessau, May 1937.

Standard pre-war *Luftwaffe* camouflage, RLM 61 *Dunkelbraun* (Dark Brown), RLM 62 *Grün* (Green), RLM 63 *Grüngrau* (Green-Grey) uppersurfaces and RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue) undersurfaces.

Source: Creek, Eddie J., *Junkers Ju 87 – From Dive-Bomber to Tank-Buster 1935–1945*, Ian Allan Publishing, pages 56-57



Junkers Ju 87A-1, W.Nr. 0091 with the civil registration D-IRLH.
Dessau, September 1937 – later used by I./St.G 167 at Lübeck-Blankensee.

Standard pre-war *Luftwaffe* camouflage, RLM 61 *Dunkelbraun* (Dark Brown), RLM 62 *Grün* (Green),
RLM 63 *Grüngrau* (Green-Grey) uppersurfaces and RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue) undersurfaces.

Source: Steenbeck, Alexander, *Die dunklen Jahre – Der Flughafen Lübeck-Blankensee in den 1930er und 40er Jahren*, Eigenverlag Alexander Steenbeck, page 36

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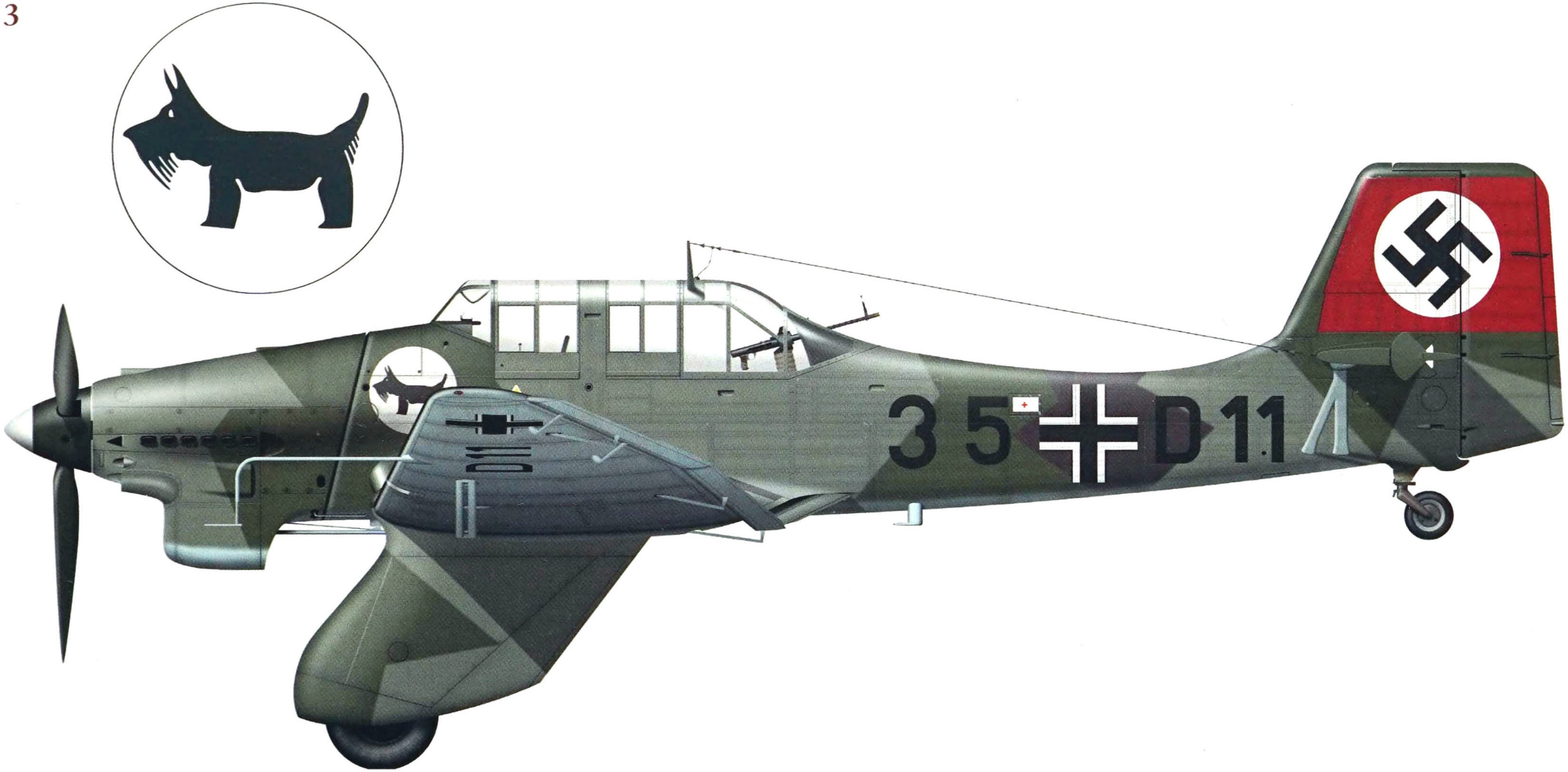
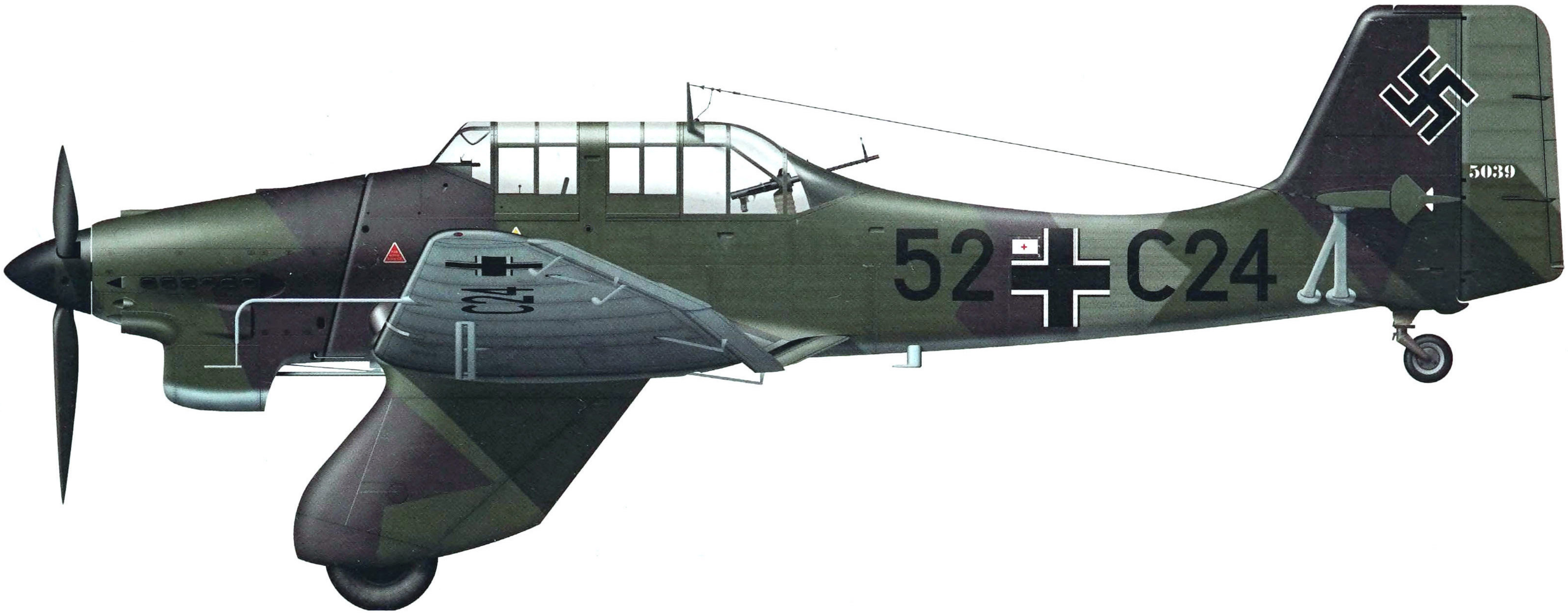


Junkers Ju 87A-2, 35+D11 of 1./St.G 163.

Standard pre-war *Luftwaffe* camouflage, RLM 61 *Dunkelbraun* (Dark Brown), RLM 62 *Grün* (Green), RLM 63 *Grüngrau* (Green-Grey) uppersurfaces and RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue) undersurfaces.

Source: photograph in author's collection



Junkers Ju 87A-2, 52+C24 of 1./St.G 165.

Standard pre-war *Luftwaffe* camouflage, RLM 61 *Dunkelbraun* (Dark Brown), RLM 62 *Grün* (Green), RLM 63 *Grüngrau* (Green-Grey) uppersurfaces and RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue) undersurfaces.

Source: Michulec, Robert & Willis, Matthew, *Junkers Ju 87 Stuka*, Mushroom Model Publications, page 19

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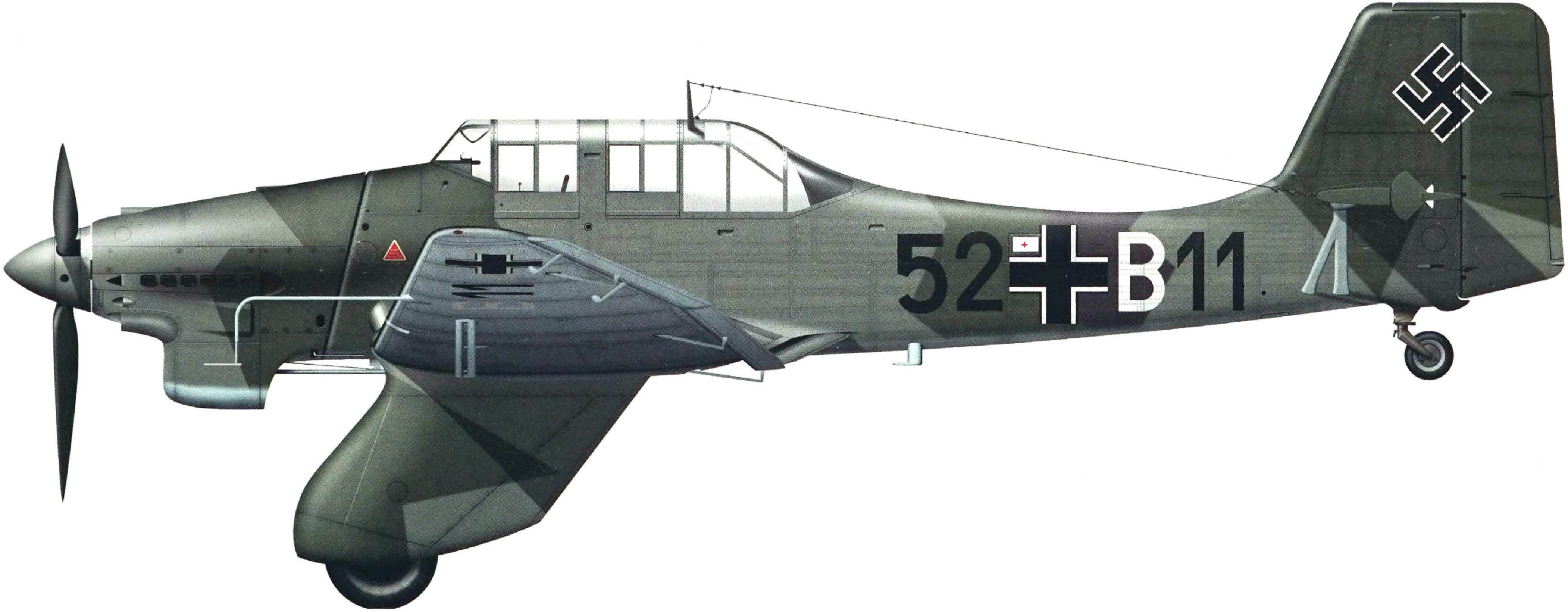
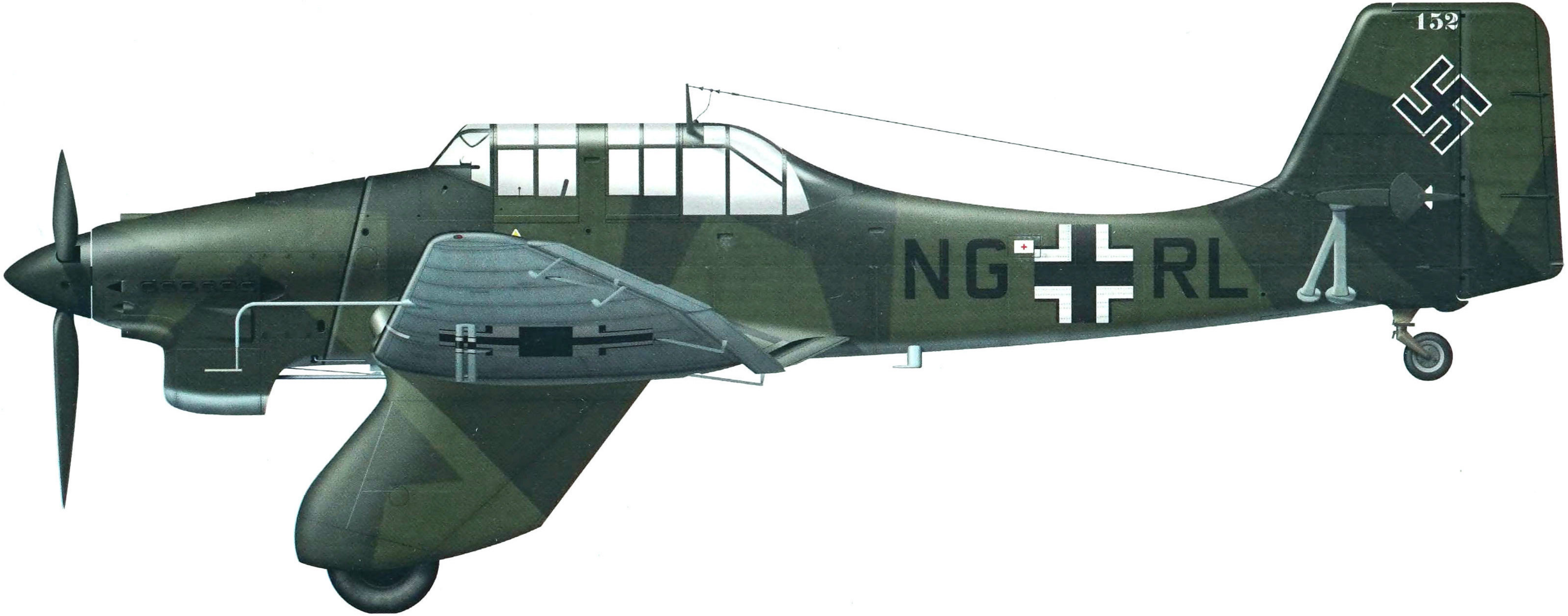


Junkers Ju 87A-2, 52+B11 of 1./St.G 165.

Standard pre-war *Luftwaffe* camouflage, RLM 61 *Dunkelbraun* (Dark Brown), RLM 62 *Grün* (Green), RLM 63 *Grüngrau* (Green-Grey) uppersurfaces and RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue) undersurfaces.

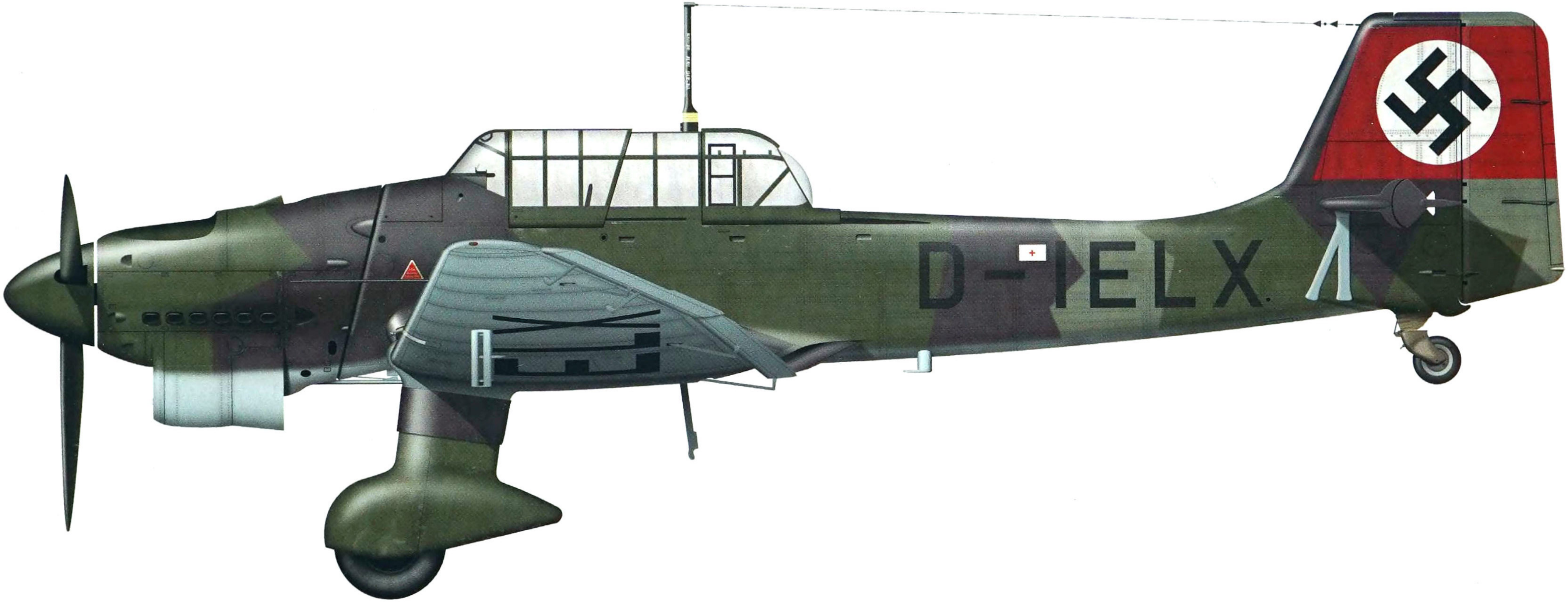
Source: propaganda postcard



Junkers Ju 87A-2, W.Nr. 152, NG+RL of *Stukakampfflieger-Schule* 2.
Graz-Thalerhof, summer 1941.

Standard WWII *Luftwaffe* bomber camouflage, RLM 70 *Schwarzgrün* (Black-Green),
RLM 71 *Dunkelgrün* (Dark Green), uppersurfaces and RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue) undersurfaces.

Source: Griehl, Manfred, *Junkers Ju 87 „Stuka“, Kampfflugzeug – Schlachtflugzeug – Panzerjäger*, Motorbuch Verlag, page 50

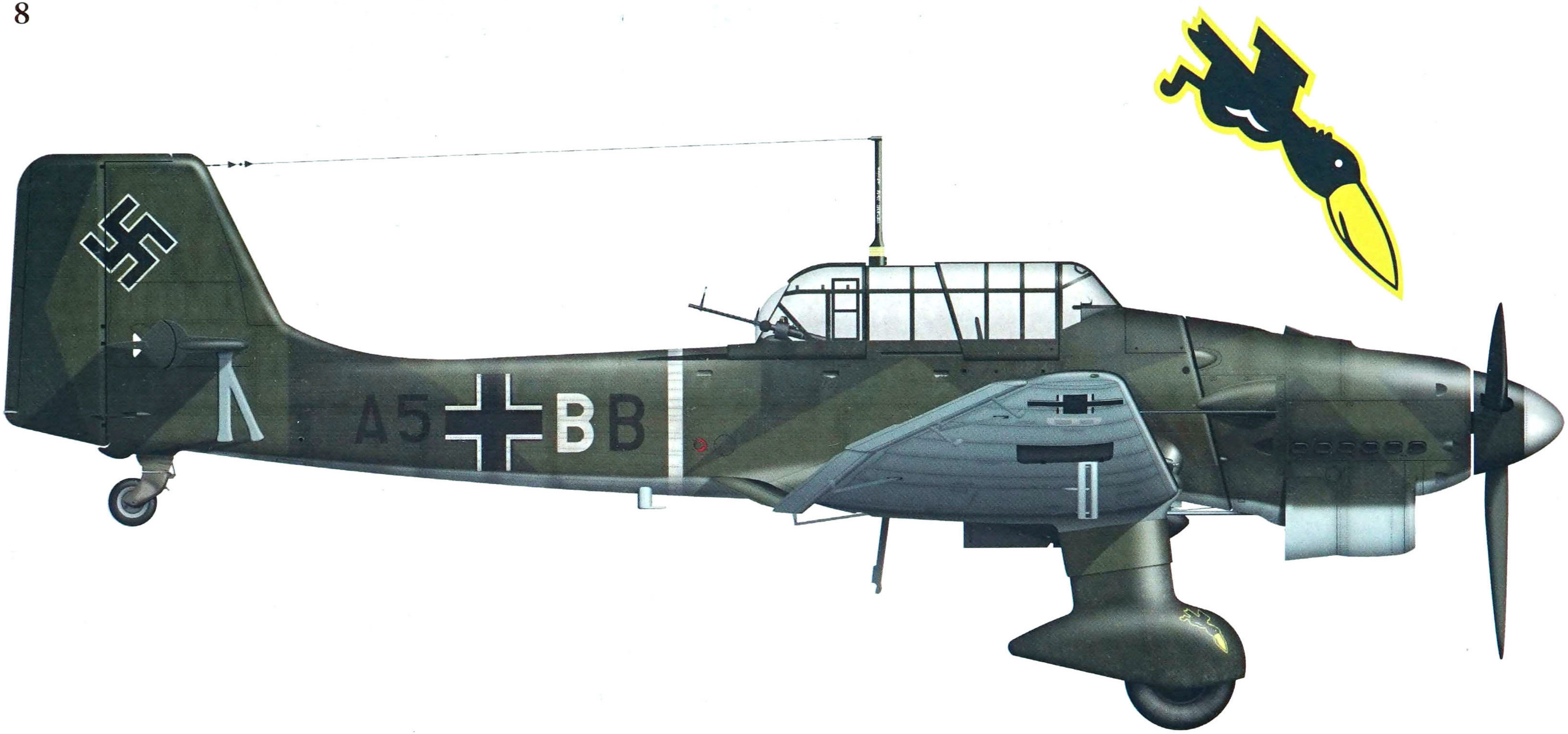


Junkers Ju 87V9, W.Nr. 4927 with the civil registration D-IELX.

February 1938.

Pre-war *Luftwaffe* camouflage, RLM 61 *Dunkelbraun* (Dark Brown), RLM 62 *Grün* (Green), RLM 63 *Grüngrau* (Green-Grey) uppersurfaces and RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue) undersurfaces.

Source: Creek, Eddie J., *Junkers Ju 87 – From Dive-Bomber to Tank-Buster 1935–1945*, Ian Allan Publishing, pages 77–78



Junkers Ju 87B-1, A5+BB of I./St.G 1.
Campaign in Poland, autumn 1939.

RLM 70/71/65 camouflage. The narrow white band around the fuselage was an additional marking for aircraft flown by the *Stab*. Also unusual is the position of the *Geschwaderemblem* at the wheel fairing.

Source: Creek, Eddie J., *Junkers Ju 87 – From Dive-Bomber to Tank-Buster 1935–1945*, Ian Allan Publishing, page 111

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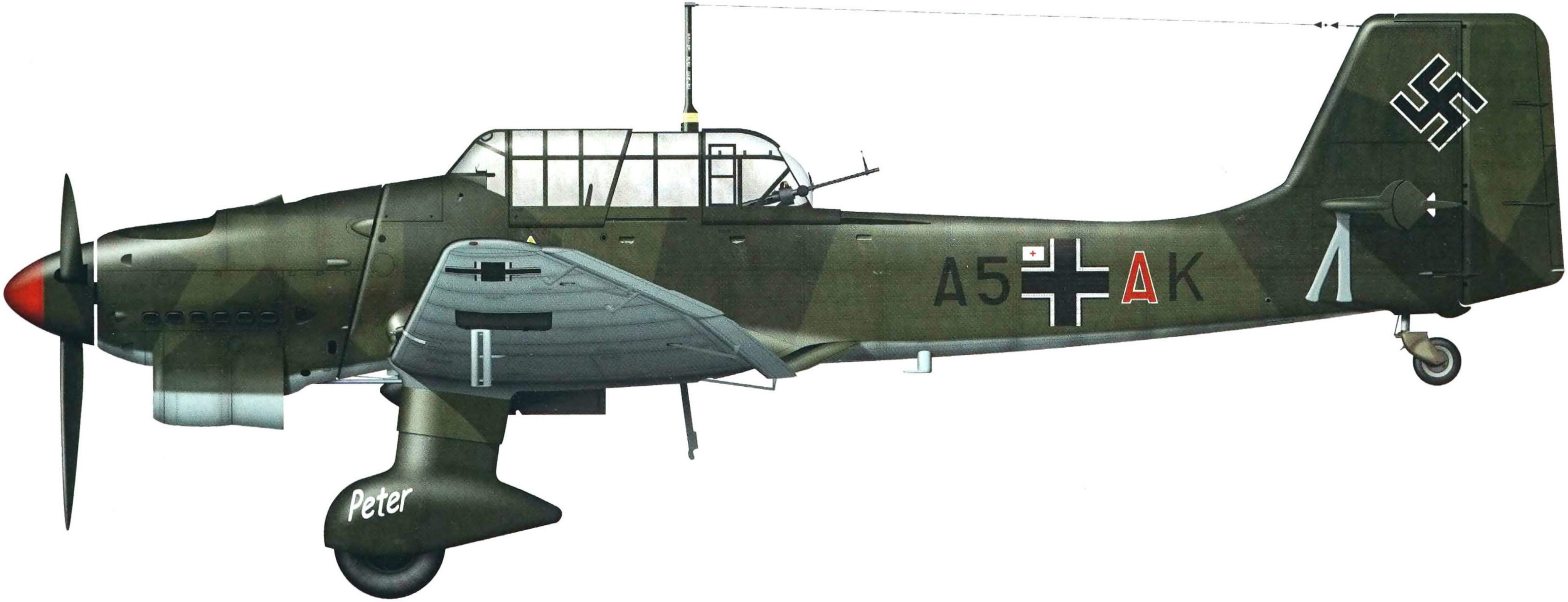


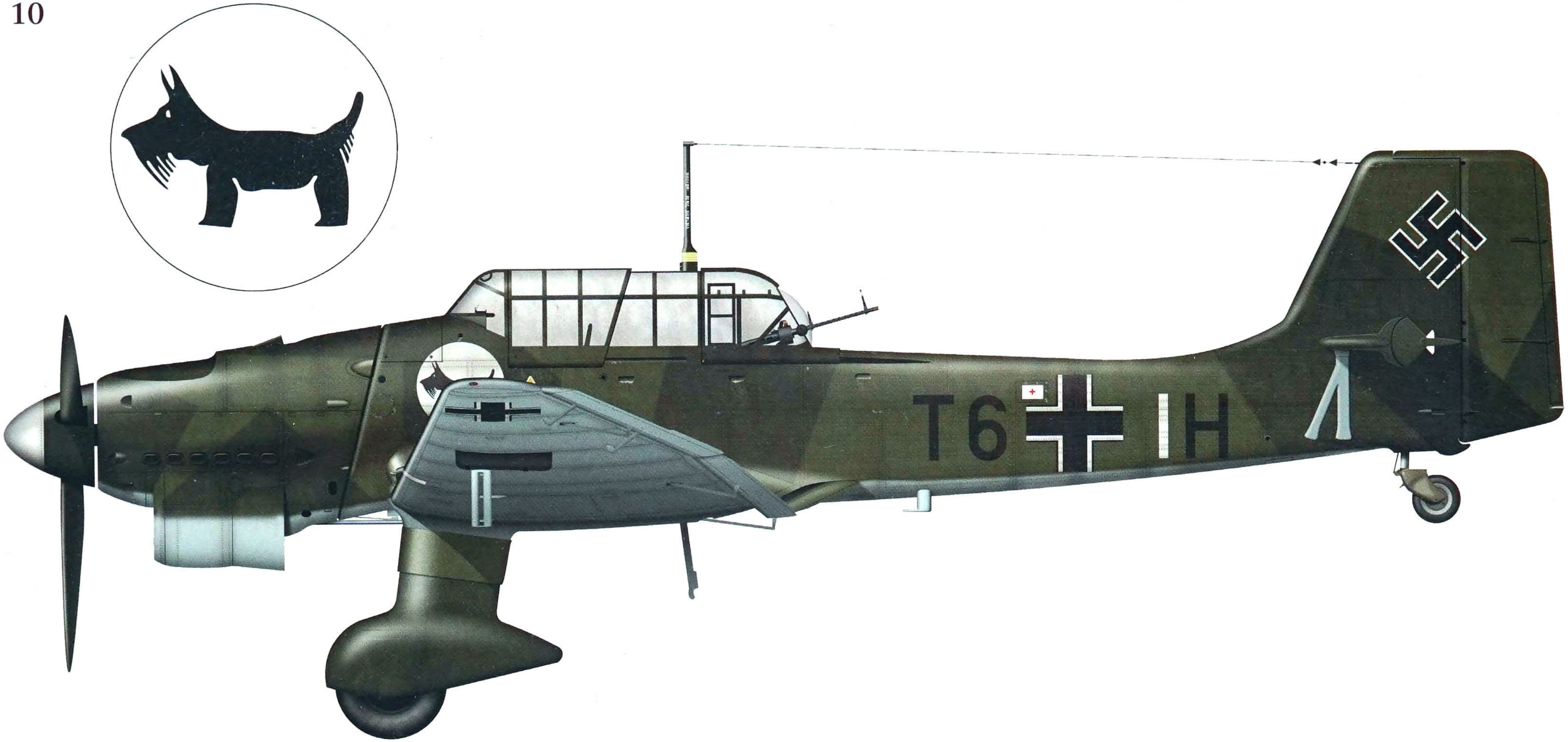
Junkers Ju 87B-1, A5+AK of 2./St.G 1.

Flown by *Staffelkapitän Hptm*. Peter Gaßmann, France, summer 1940.

Peter Gaßmann was awarded with the Knight's Cross. He flew more than 800 sorties in *Stukas* and as a ground attack pilot.

Standard RLM 70/71/65 camouflage.

Source: Smith, Peter C, *Stuka Spearhead – The Lightning War from Poland to Dunkirk 1939–1940*, Greenhill Books, page 27



Junkers Ju 87B-1, T6+IH of 1./St.G 2.

France, summer 1940.

Standard RLM 70/71/65 camouflage.

Source: Griehl, Manfred, *Junkers Ju 87 „Stuka“ Teil 1, Die frühen Varianten A, B, C und R des Sturzkampfbombers der Luftwaffe AirDOC*, page 31

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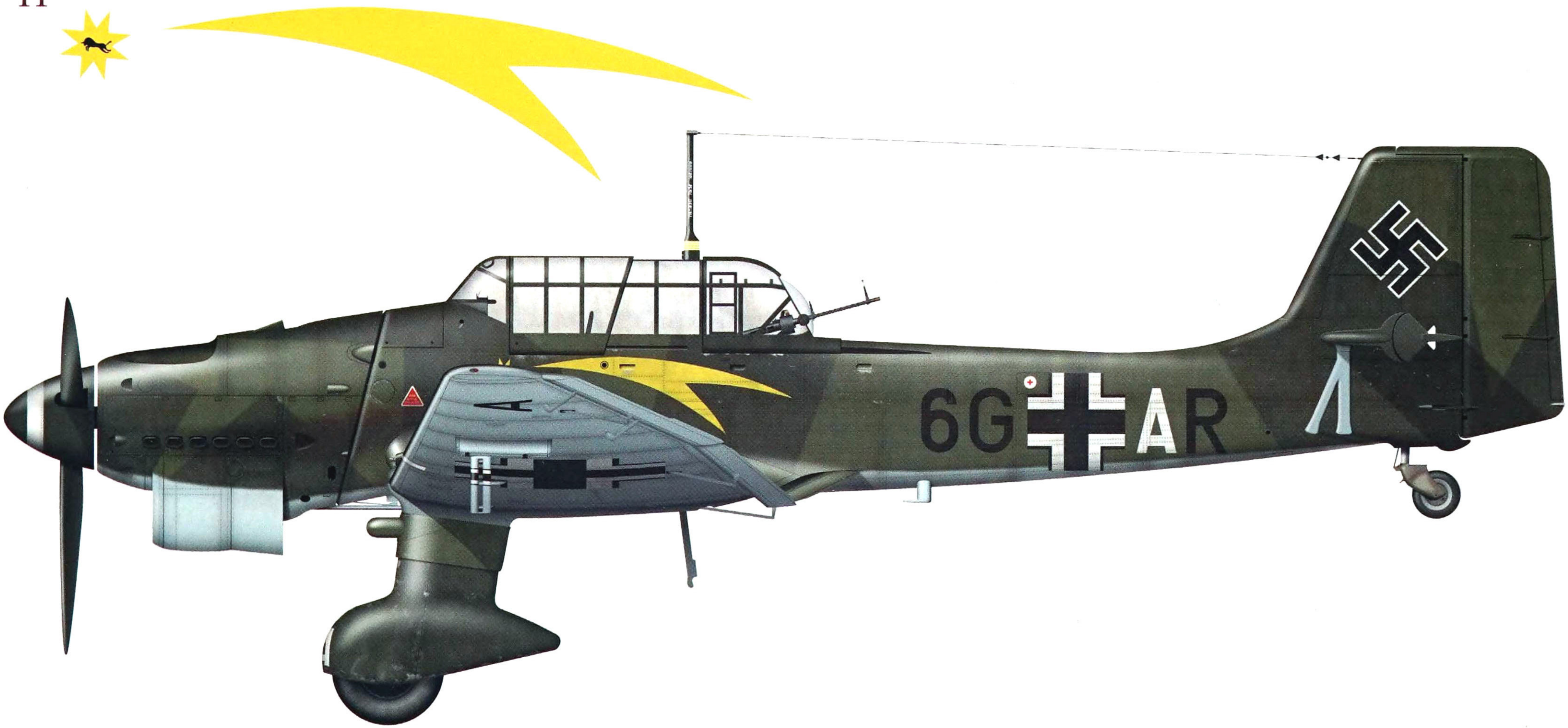

Junkers Ju 87B-1, 6G+AR of 7./St.G 51.

France, summer 1940.

Standard RLM 70/71/65 camouflage.

Source: Smith, Peter C., *STUKA Volume One – Luftwaffe Ju 87 Dive-Bomber Units 1939–1941*, Ian Allan Ltd, page 35

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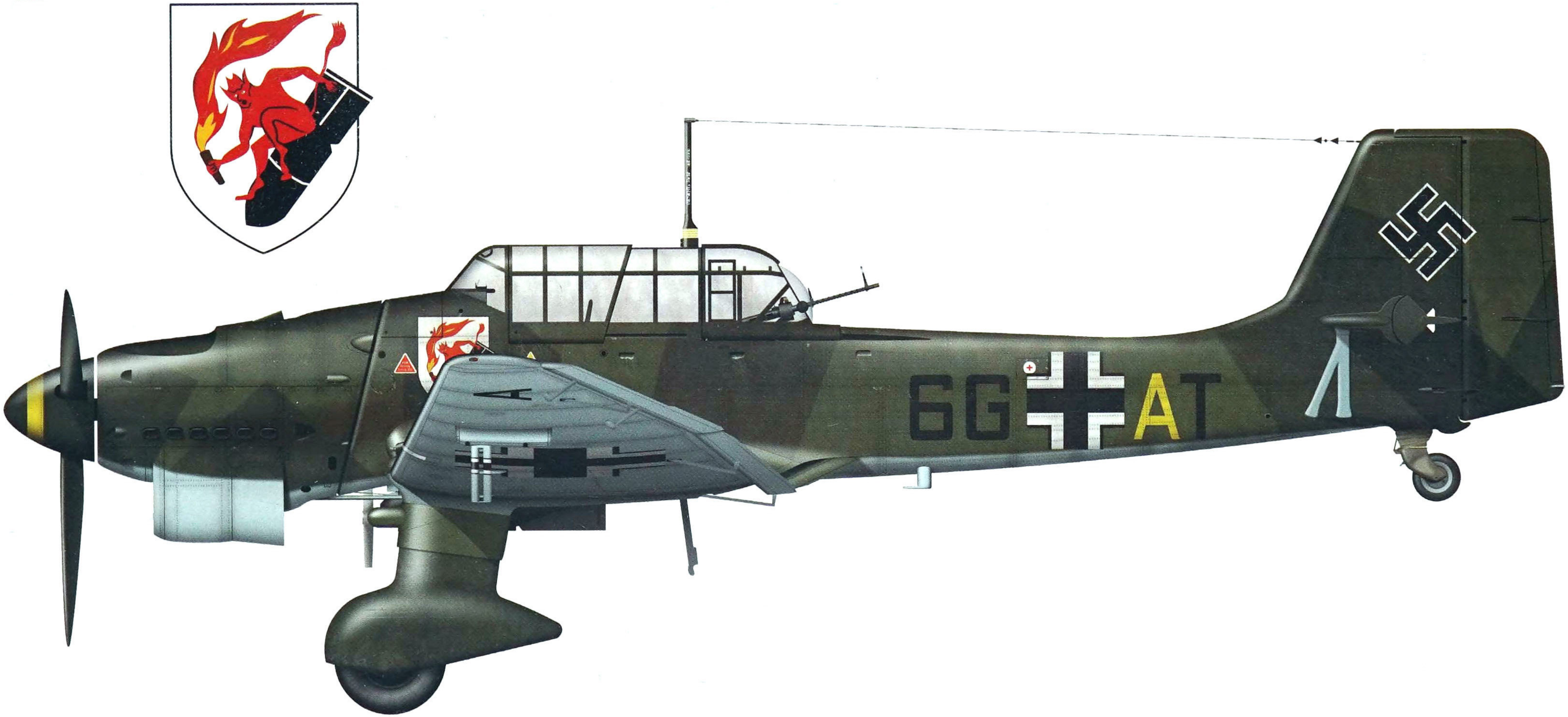

Junkers Ju 87B-1, 6G+AT of 6./St.G 1.

France, summer 1940.

Standard RLM 70/71/65 camouflage.

Source: Smith, Peter C., *Stuka Spearhead – The Lightning War from Poland to Dunkirk 1939–1940*, Greenhill Books, page 27

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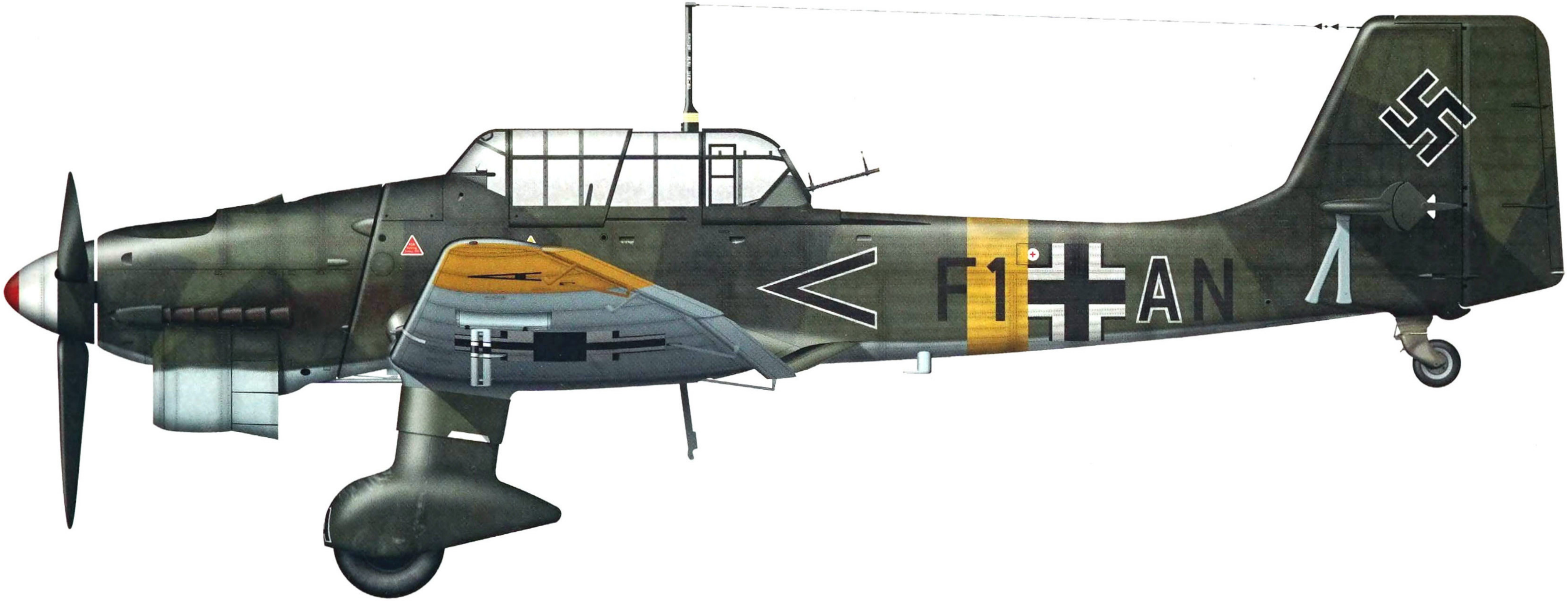


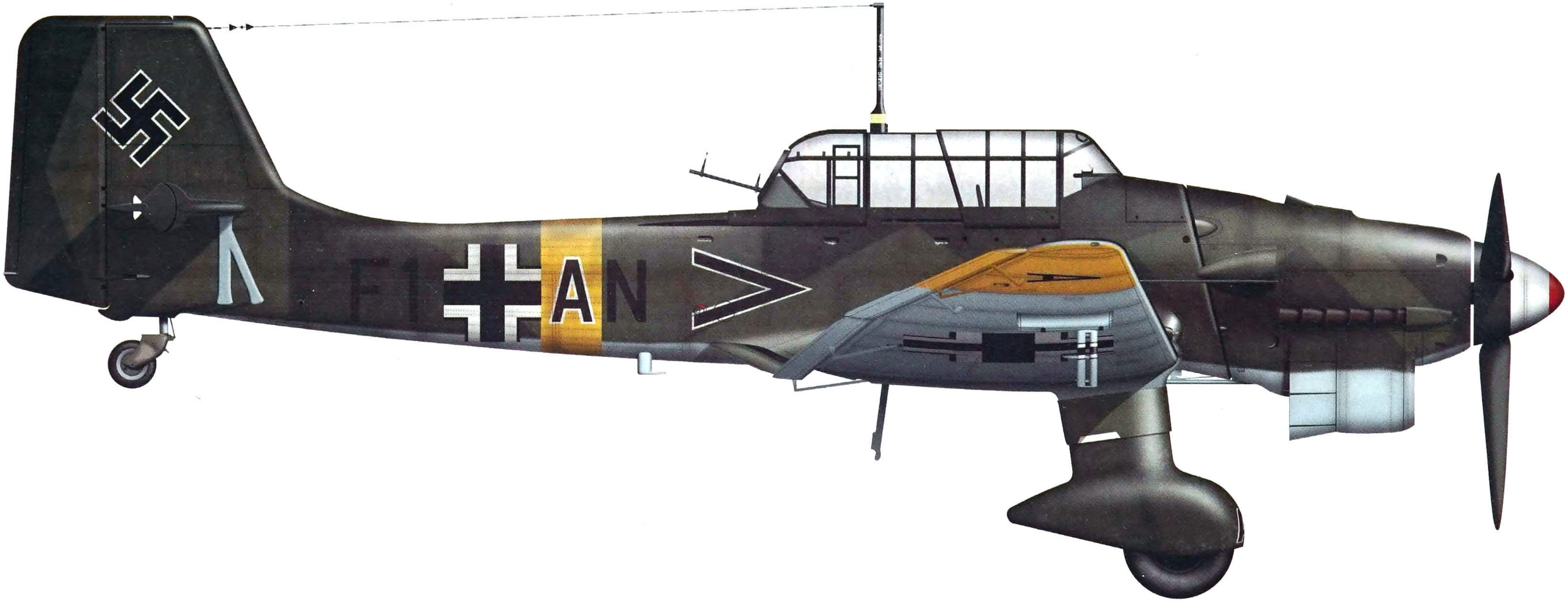
Junkers Ju 87B-2, < F1+AN of 8./St.G 77.

Flown by *Hptm*. Gerhard Bauhaus, *Staffelkapitän* of 8./St.G. 77, Russia, 1941.

Gerhard Bauhaus was awarded with the Knight's Cross. He was shot down on 22 July, 1942 and passed away because of massive burns on 2 September, 1942.

Standard RLM 70/71/65 camouflage.

Source: Smith, Peter C., *STUKA Volume One – Luftwaffe Ju 87 Dive-Bomber Units 1939–1941*, Ian Allan Ltd, page 89



Junkers Ju 87B-2, < F1+AN of *Hptm*. Gerhard Bauhaus.

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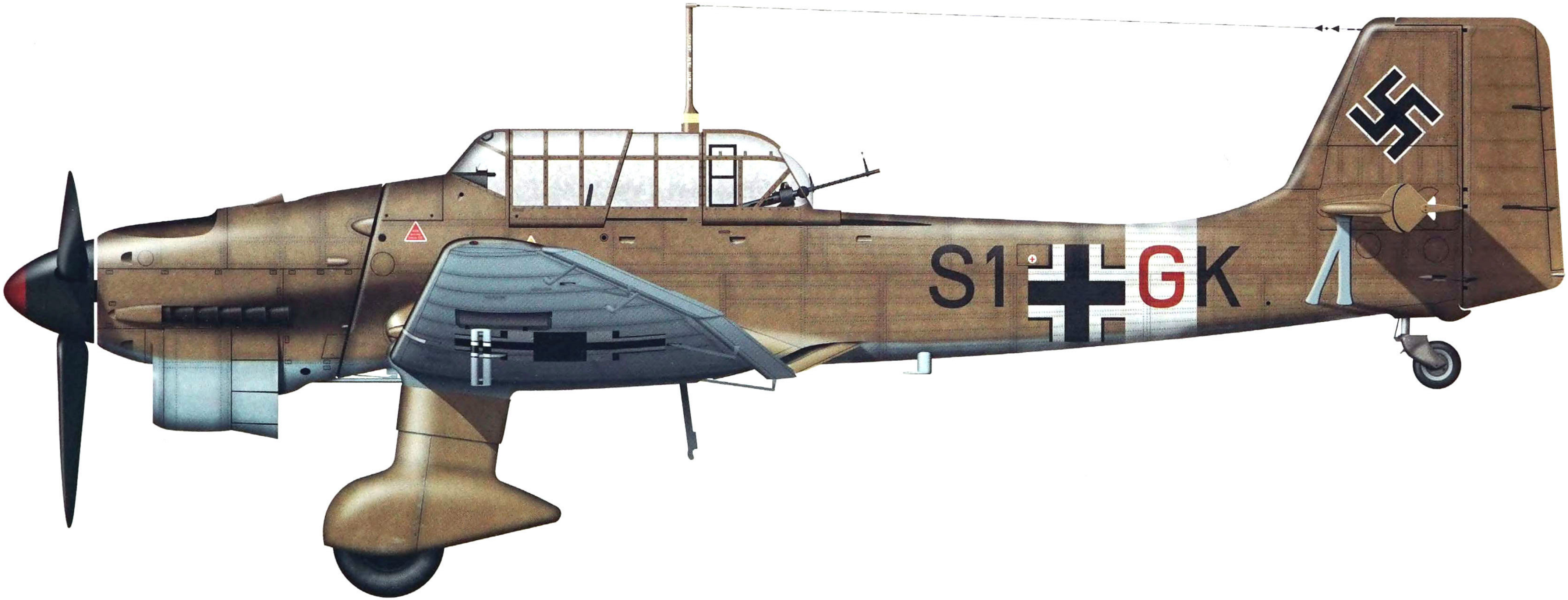
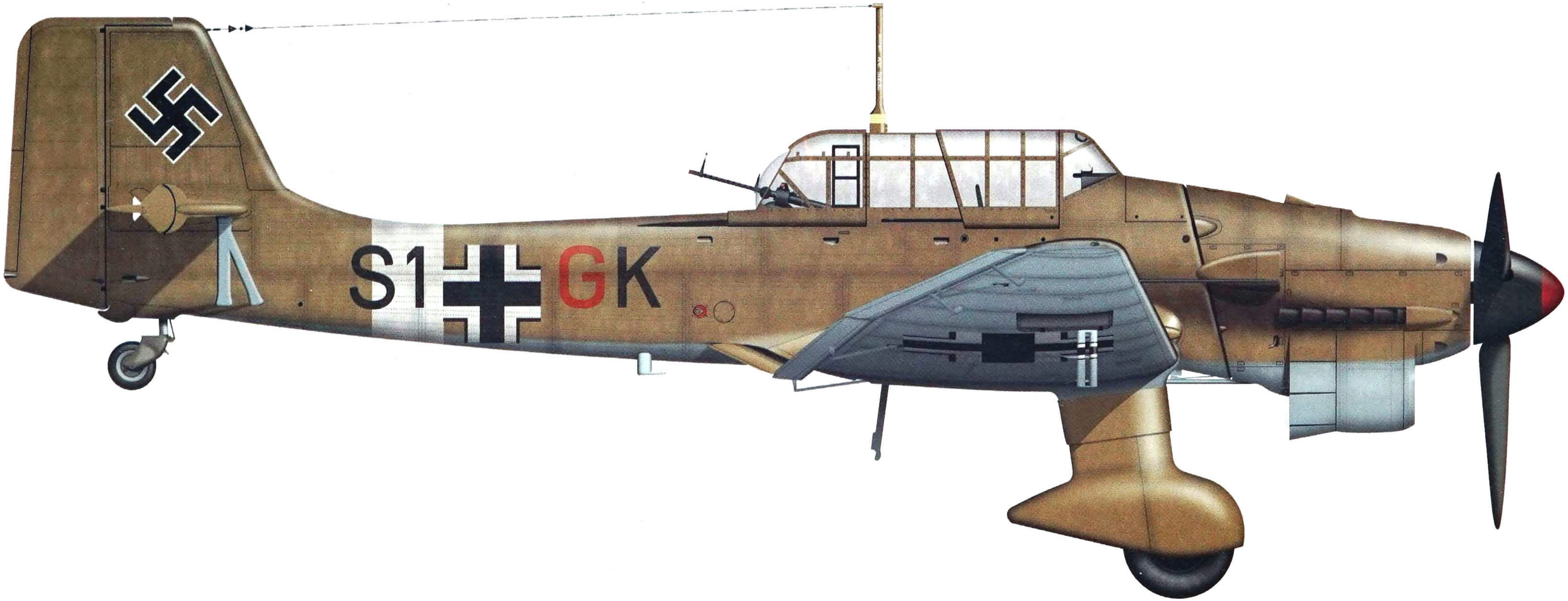


Junkers Ju 87B-2/trop, S1+GK of 2./St.G 3.

Derna airfield, Libya, North Africa, autumn 1941.

Standard desert camouflage of RLM 79 *Sandgelb* (Sand-Yellow) uppersurfaces with RLM 78 *Hellblau* (Blue) undersurfaces.

Source: Smith, Peter C., *Stukas over the Mediterranean 1940–1945*, Greenhill Books, page 49



Junkers Ju 87B-2/trop, S1+GK.

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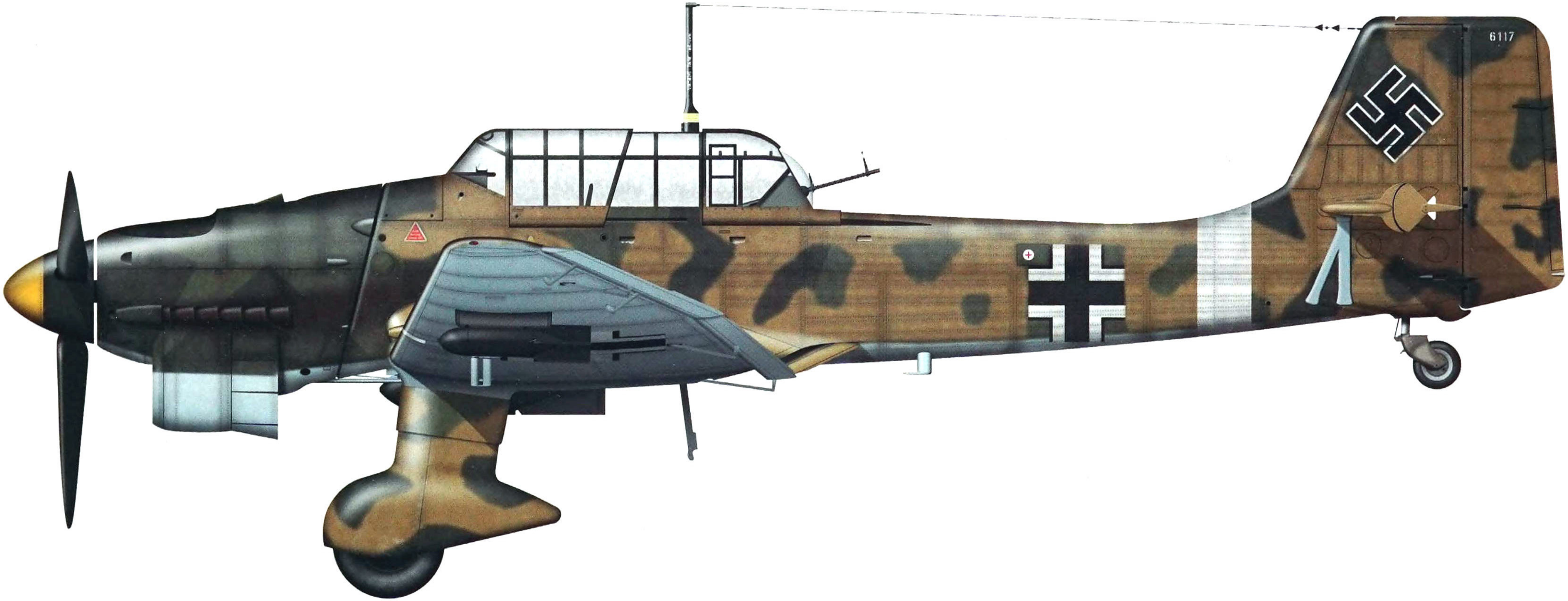
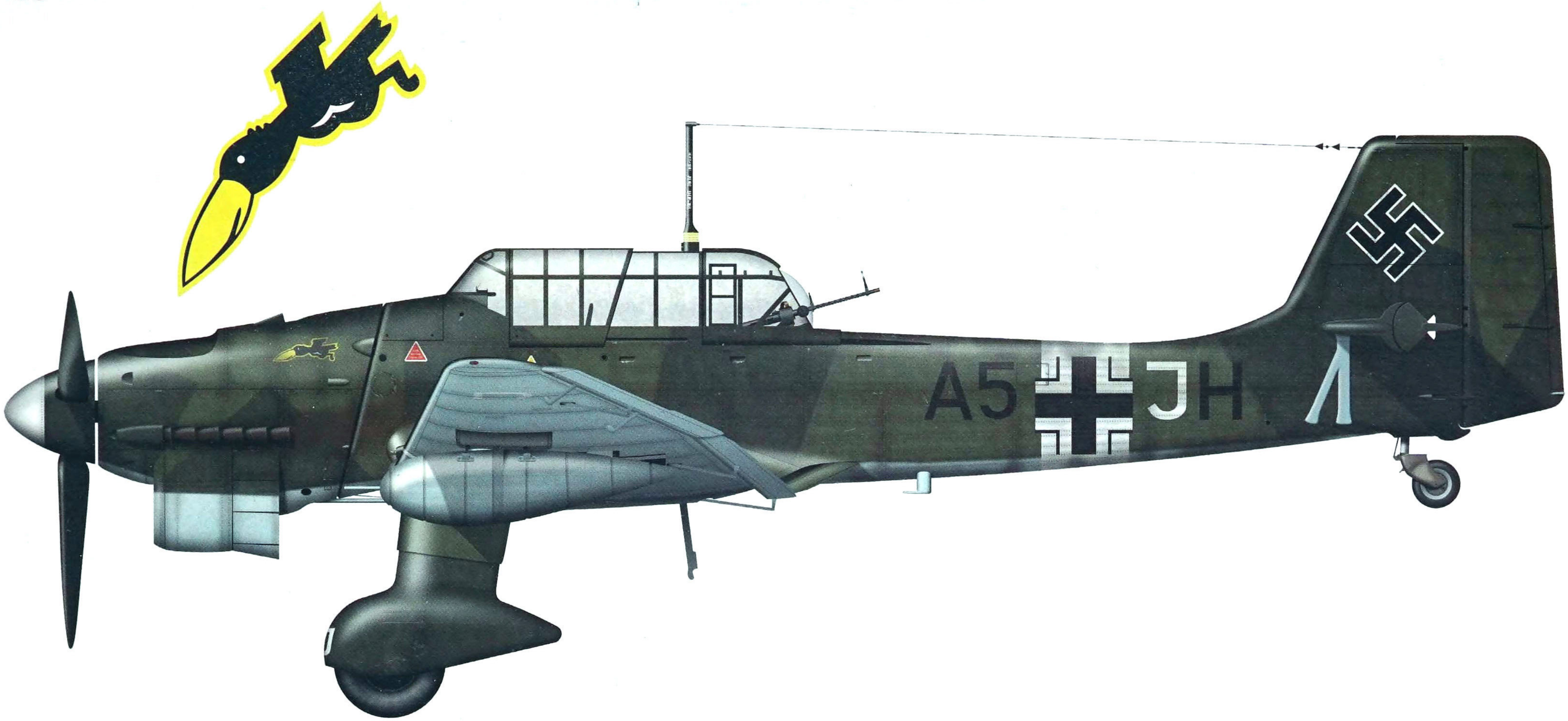


Junkers Ju 87B-2/trop, W.Nr. 6117 of unknown unit.

North Africa, 1941.

The standard RLM 70/71/65 camouflage was overpainted with RLM 79 *Sandgelb* (Sand-Yellow).

Source: Smith, Peter C., *STUKA Volume One – Luftwaffe Ju 87 Dive-Bomber Units 1939–1941*, Ian Allan Ltd, page 71



Junkers Ju 87R-2, A5+JH of 1./St.G 1.

Sicily, January 1941.

Standard RLM 70/71/65 camouflage. The long-range variant had a modified fuel system and also could carry additional 300 Litre drop tanks under the wings.

Source: Smith, Peter C, *STUKA Volume One – Luftwaffe Ju 87 Dive-Bomber Units 1939–1941*, Ian Allan Ltd, page 65

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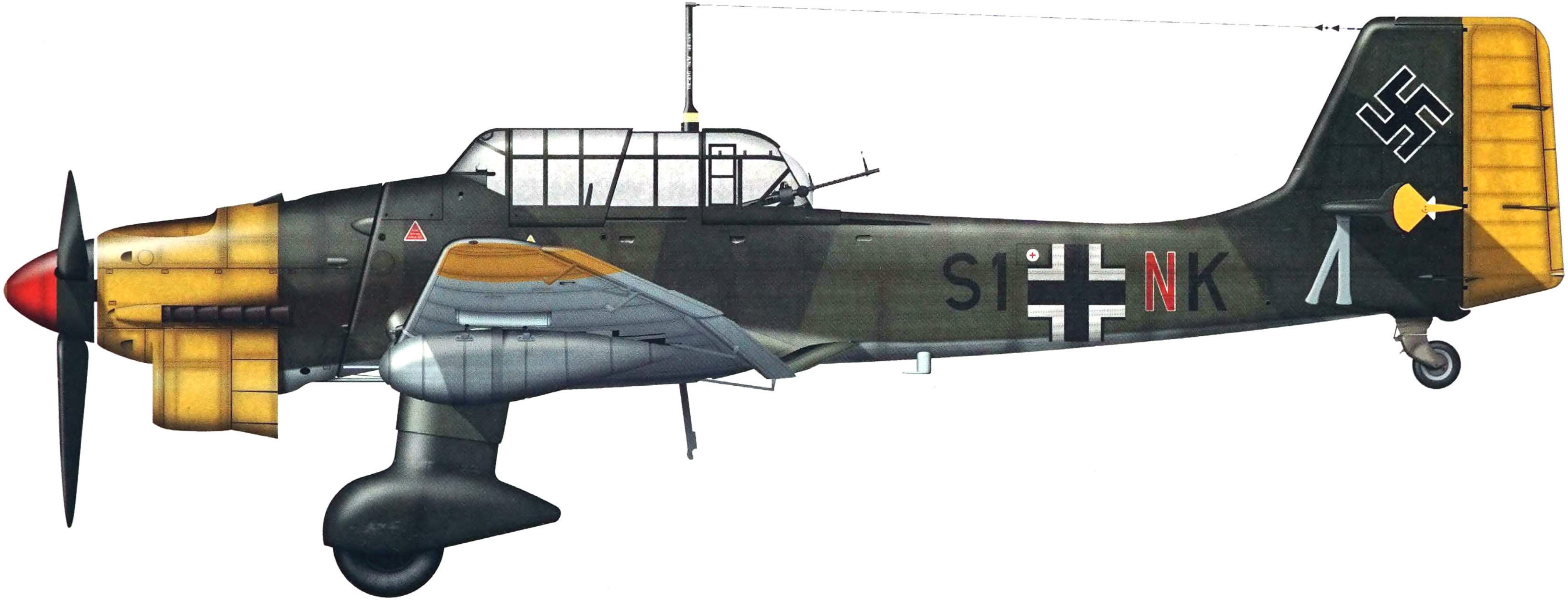
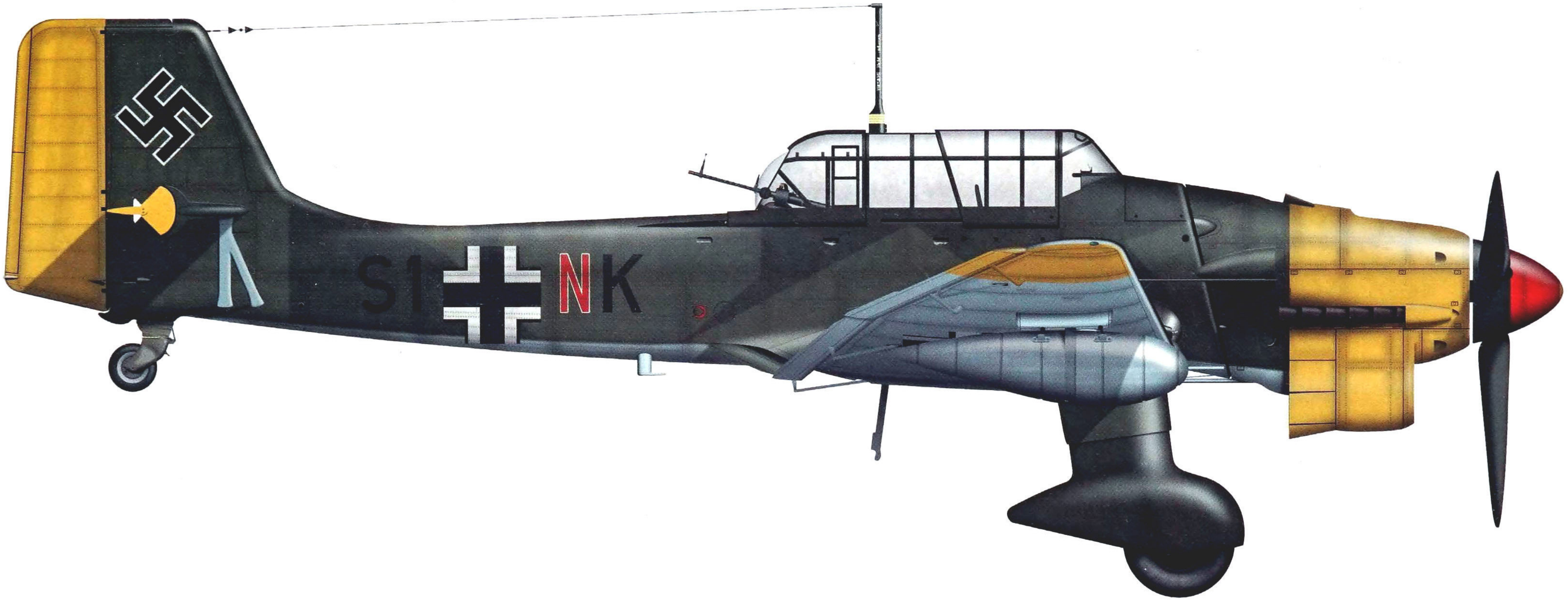


Junkers Ju 87R-2, S1+NK of 2./St.G 3.

Balkans, 1941.

Standard RLM 70/71/65 camouflage with distinctive Balkans Theatre markings,
(yellow forward engine cowling and rudder).

Source: Smith, Peter C., *STUKA Volume One – Luftwaffe Ju 87 Dive-Bomber Units 1939–1941*, Ian Allan Ltd, page 75



Junkers Ju 87R-2, S1+NK.

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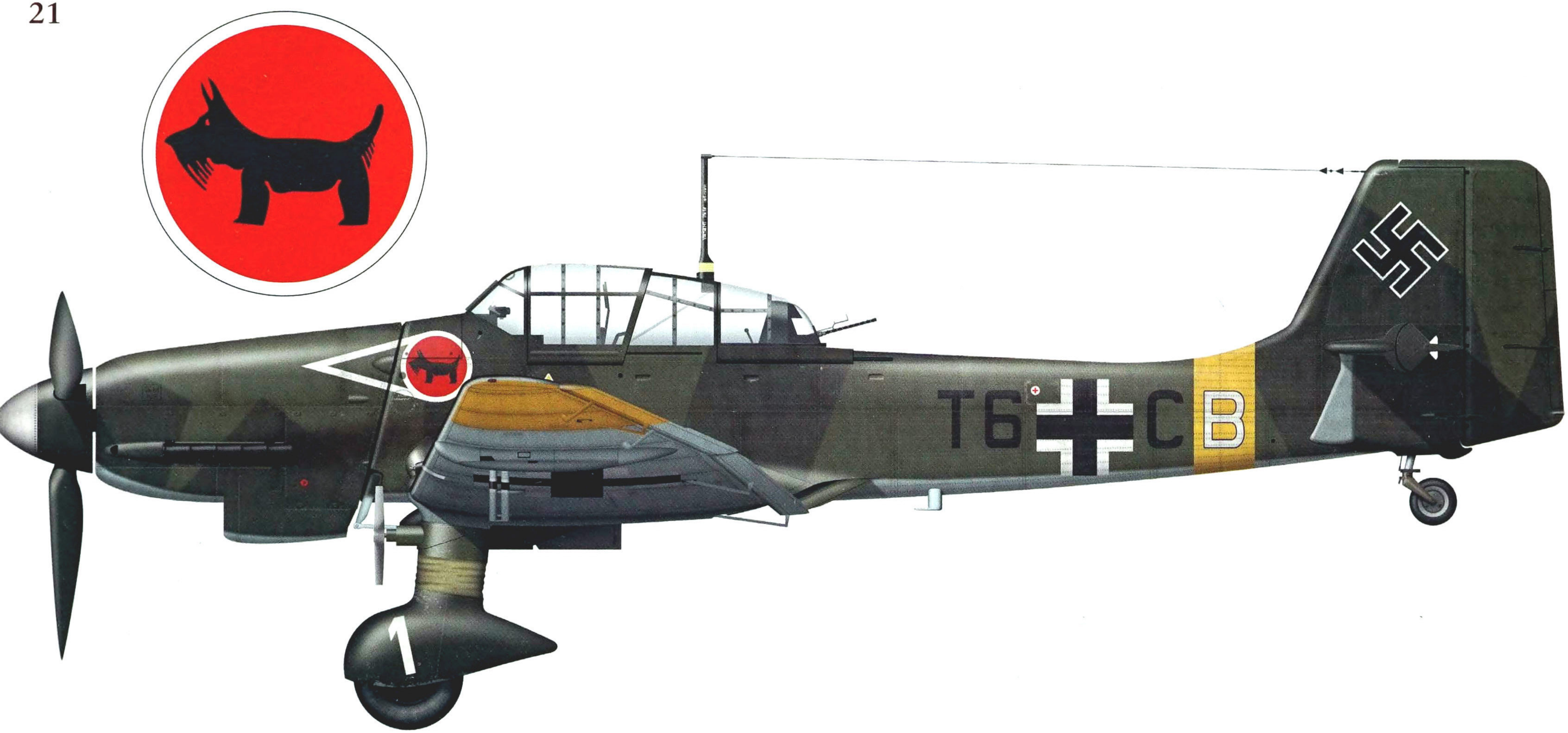
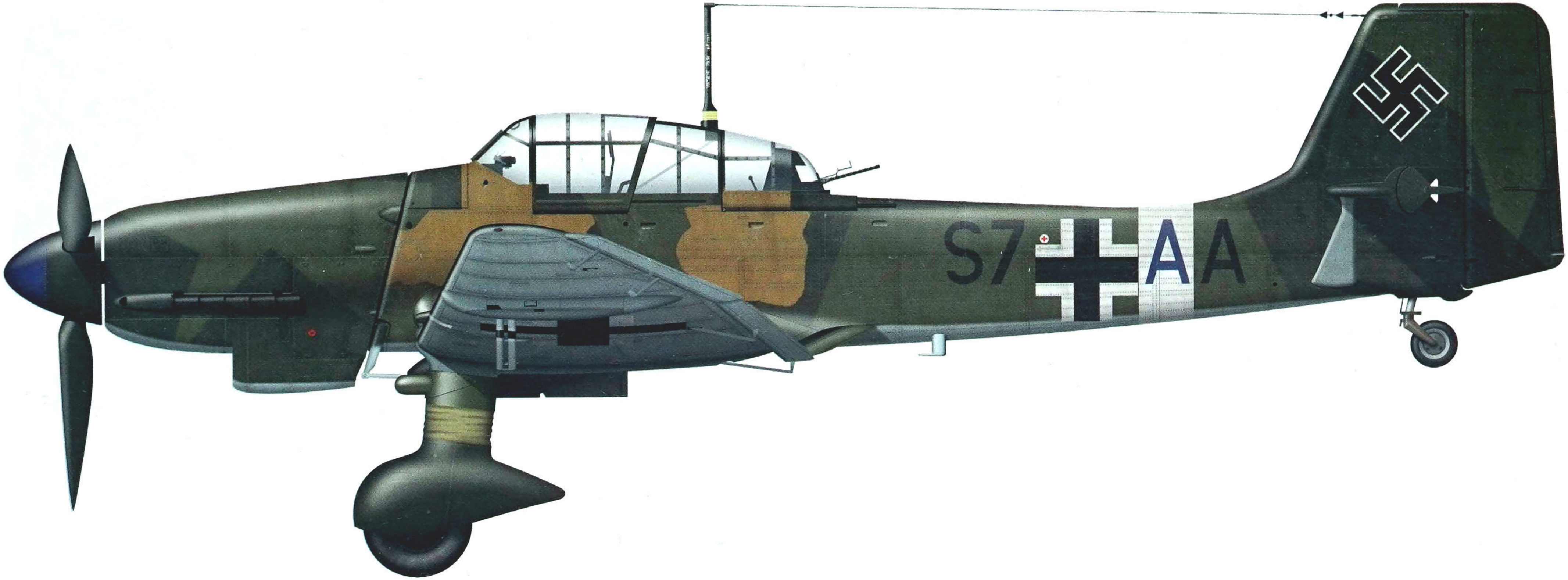


Junkers Ju 87 D-3, T6+CB of I./St.G 2.

Flown by *Hptm*. Bruno Dilley, Kommandeur of I. St.G 2, Russia, 1942.

Bruno Dilley was awarded with the *Deutsches Kreuz in Gold*, Knights Cross and Oak Leaves (Nr. 174).
He flew more than 650 combat missions with the Ju 87 and was shot down 4 times.

Source: Aders, Gebhard & Werner Held, *Stukas – Jagdbomber – Schlachtflieger – Bildchronik der deutschen Nahkampfflugzeuge bis 1945*, Motorbuchverlag, page 109



Junkers Ju 87D-3, S7+AA of St.G 3.

Flown by *Obstlt*. Walter Sigel, *Kommandeur* of St.G 3, Egypt, early autumn 1942.

Walter Sigel was awarded with the *Deutsches Kreuz in Gold*, Knights Cross and Oak leaves (No. 116).

Exact number of missions is unknown. He died on May 8th 1944 in a crash with a Fieseler Fi 156 Storch.

Source: Smith, Peter C, *STUKA Volume Two – Luftwaffe Ju 87 Dive-Bomber Units 1942–1945*, Ian Allan Ltd, page 128

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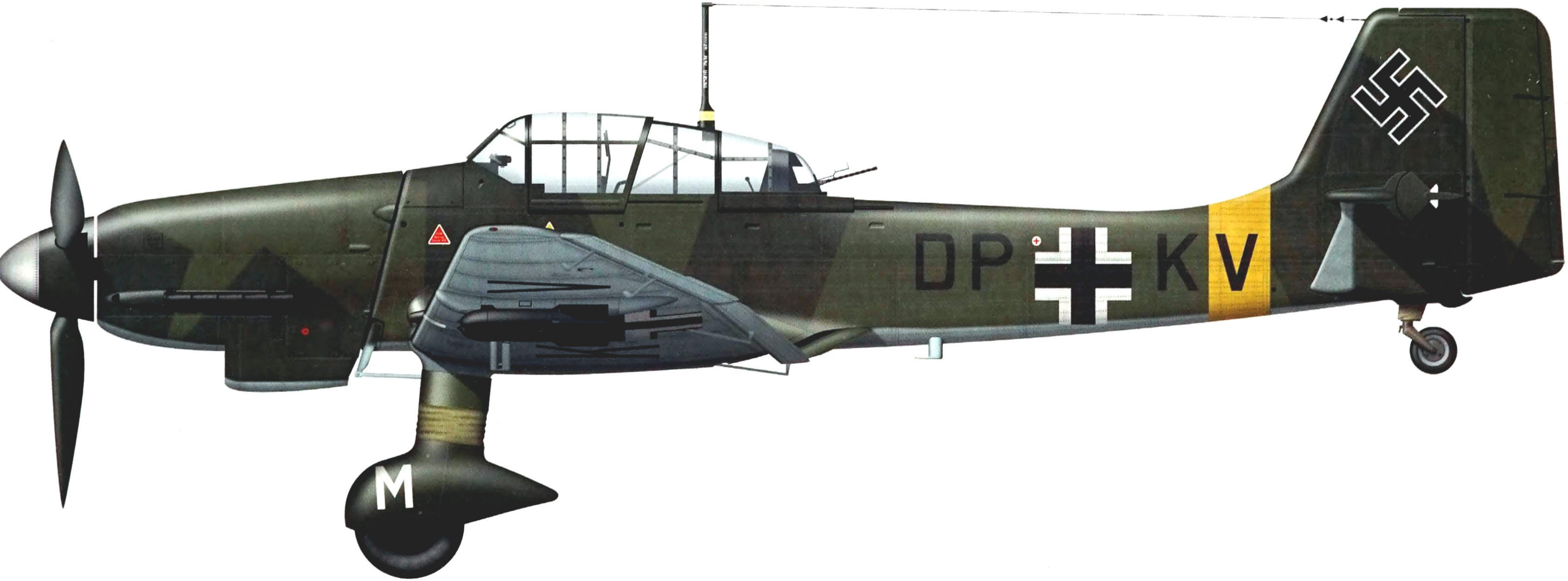
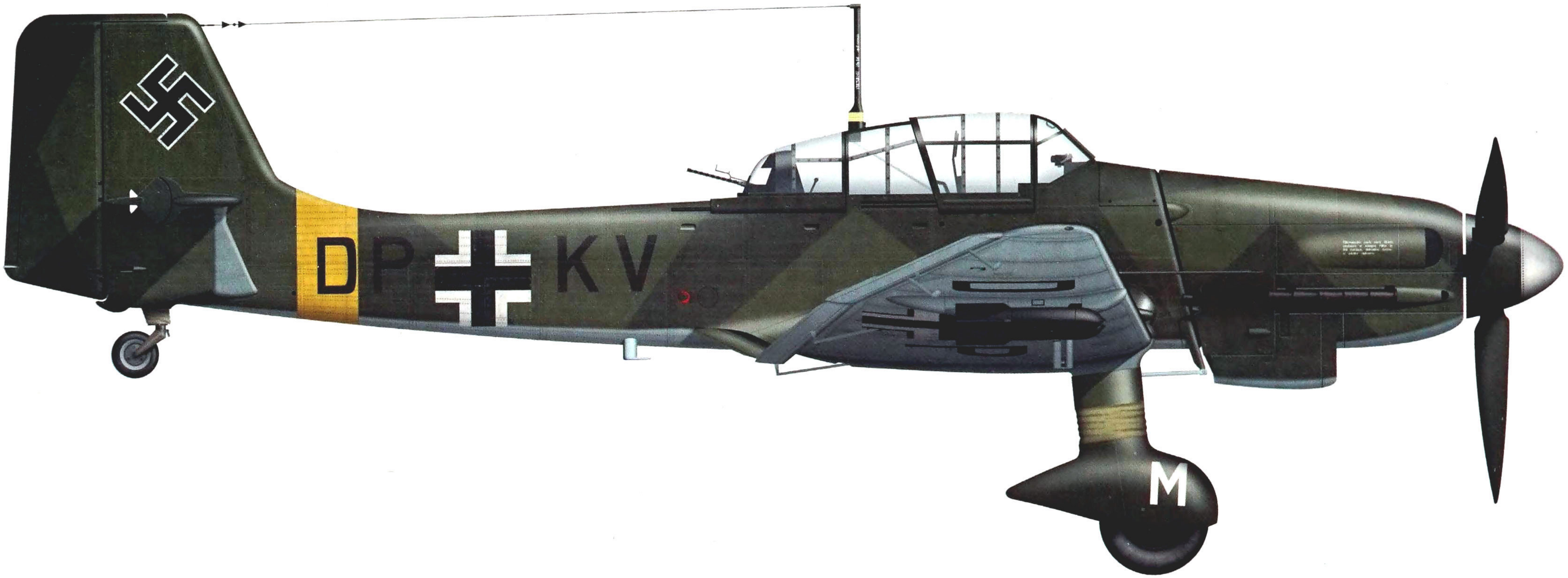


Junkers Ju 87D-3, DP+KV of St.G 77 (probably).

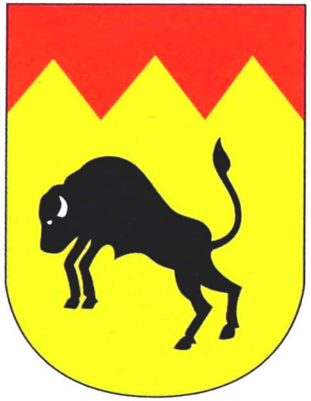
Summer 1943.

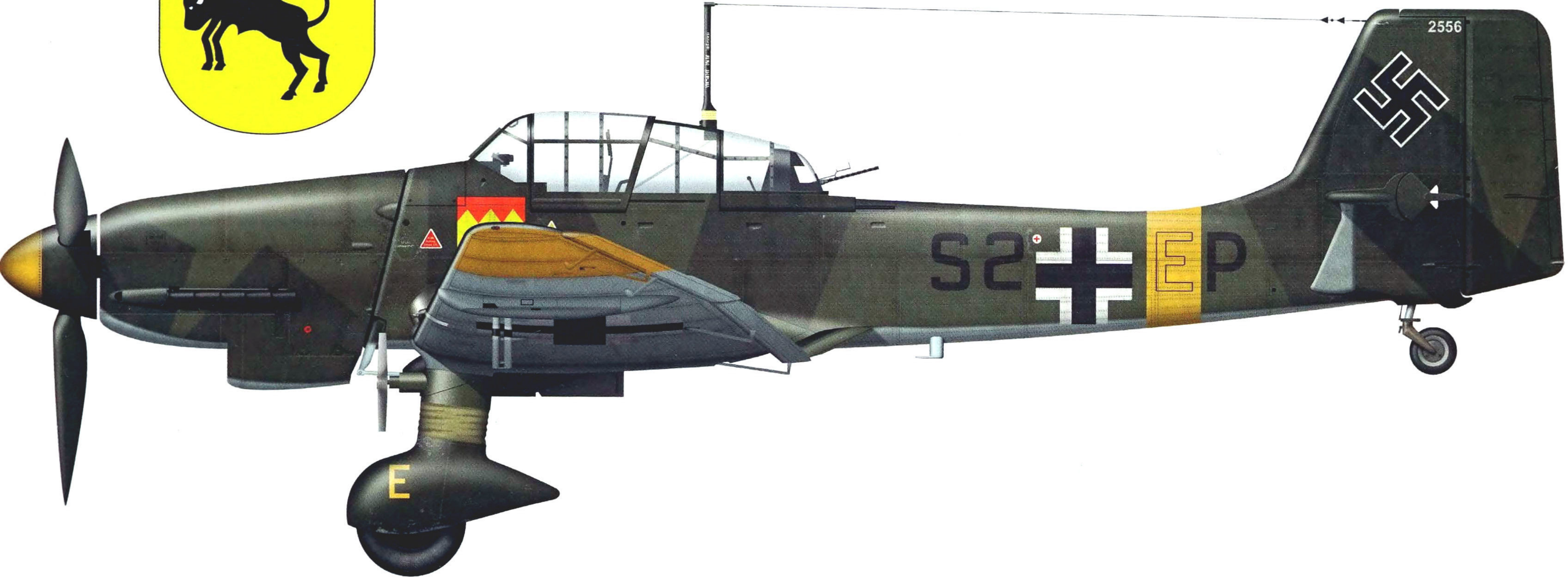
Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70 *Schwarzgrün* (Black-Green),
RLM 71 *Dunkelgrün* (Dark Green) uppersurfaces and RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue) undersurfaces.

Source: Murawski, Marek J., *Junkers Ju 87 vol. III*, Kagero, page 48



Junkers Ju 87D-3, DP+KV.



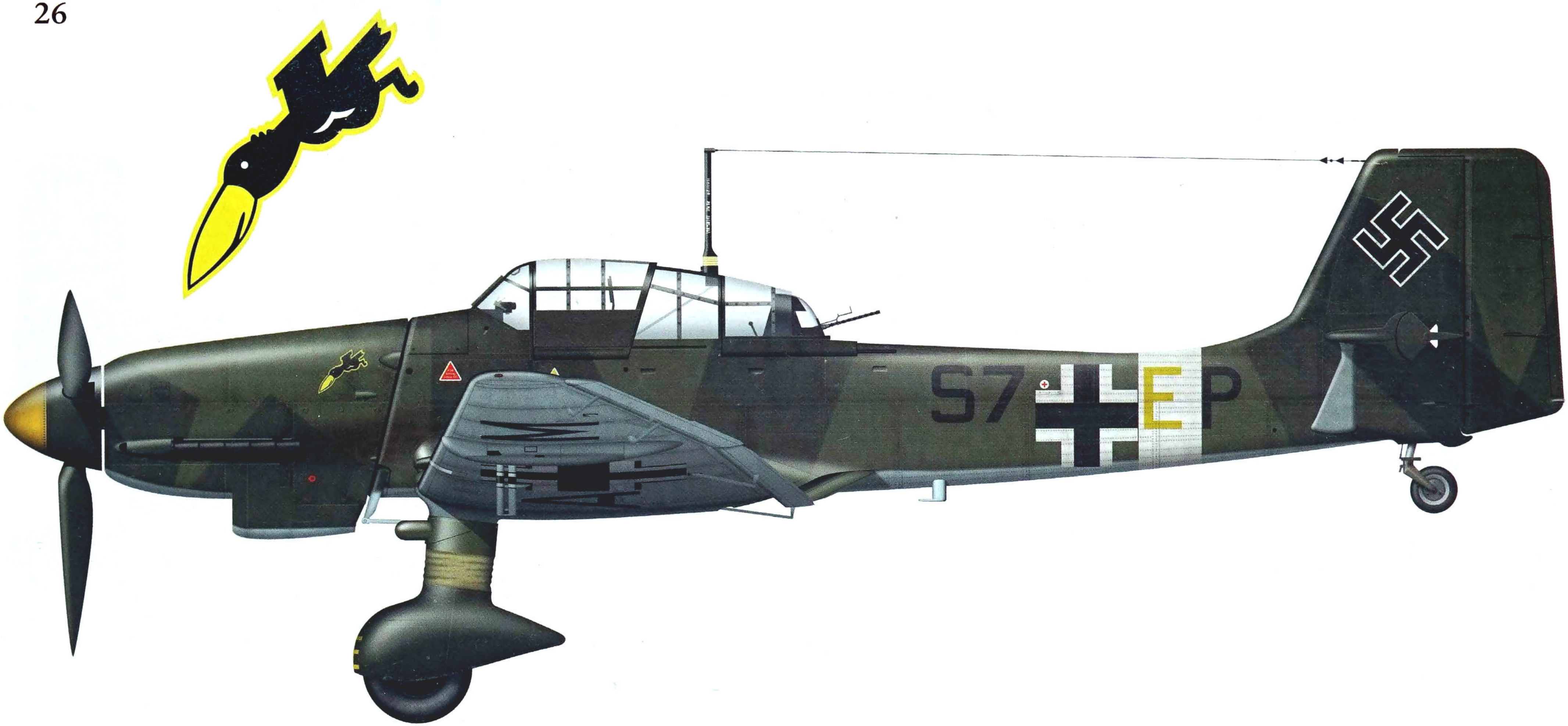


Junkers Ju 87D-3, possibly W.Nr. 2556, S2+EP of 6./St.G 77.

Russia, 1942.

Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70 *Schwarzgrün* (Black-Green),
RLM 71 *Dunkelgrün* (Dark Green) uppersurfaces and RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue) undersurfaces.

Source: Urbanke, Axel, *Luftwaffe im Focus No 7*, *Luftfahrtverlag Start*, page 14



Junkers Ju 87D-3, S7+EP of 6./St.G 3.
Possibly Tunesia 1942.

Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70 *Schwarzgrün* (Black-Green), RLM 71 *Dunkelgrün* (Dark Green) uppersurfaces and RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue) undersurfaces. It was equipped with additional armourplates at the canopy.

Source: Birkholz, Heinz, *Jet&Prop Foto Archiv 1*, VDM Heinz Nickel, page 52

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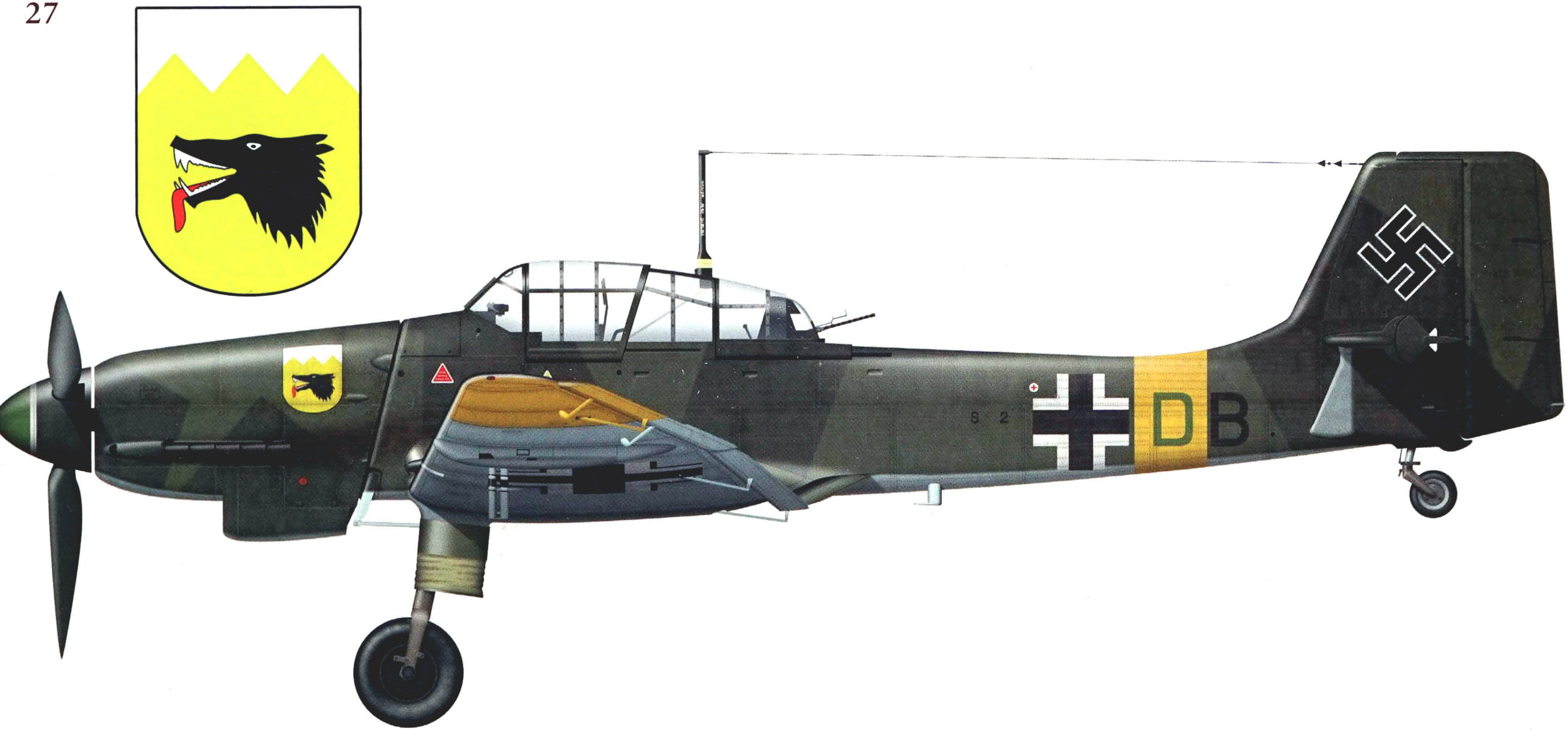
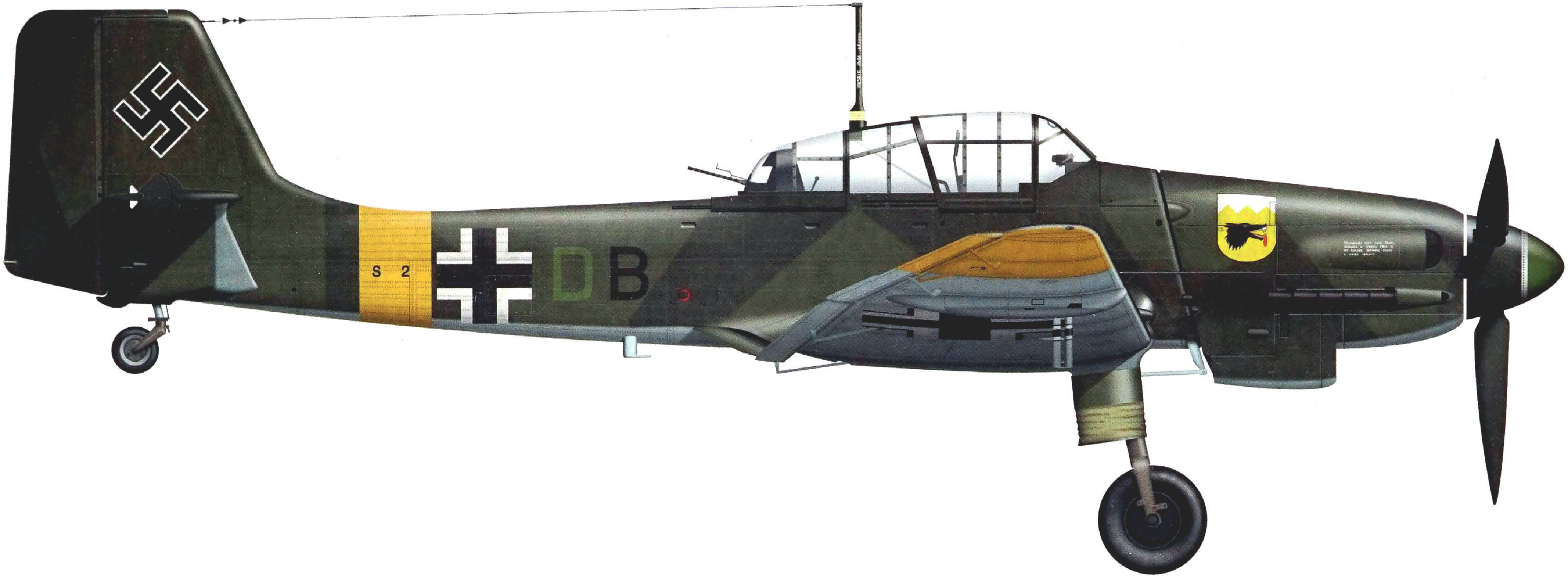


Junkers Ju 87D-3, S2+DB of Stab I./SG 77.

Eastern Front, summer1944.

Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70 *Schwarzgrün* (Black-Green), RLM 71 *Dunkelgrün* (Dark Green) uppersurfaces and RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue) undersurfaces. For better handling the mainwheel fairings were removed.

Source: Murawski, Marek J., *Junkers Ju 87 vol. III*, Kagero, page 48



Junkers Ju 87D-3, S2+DB.

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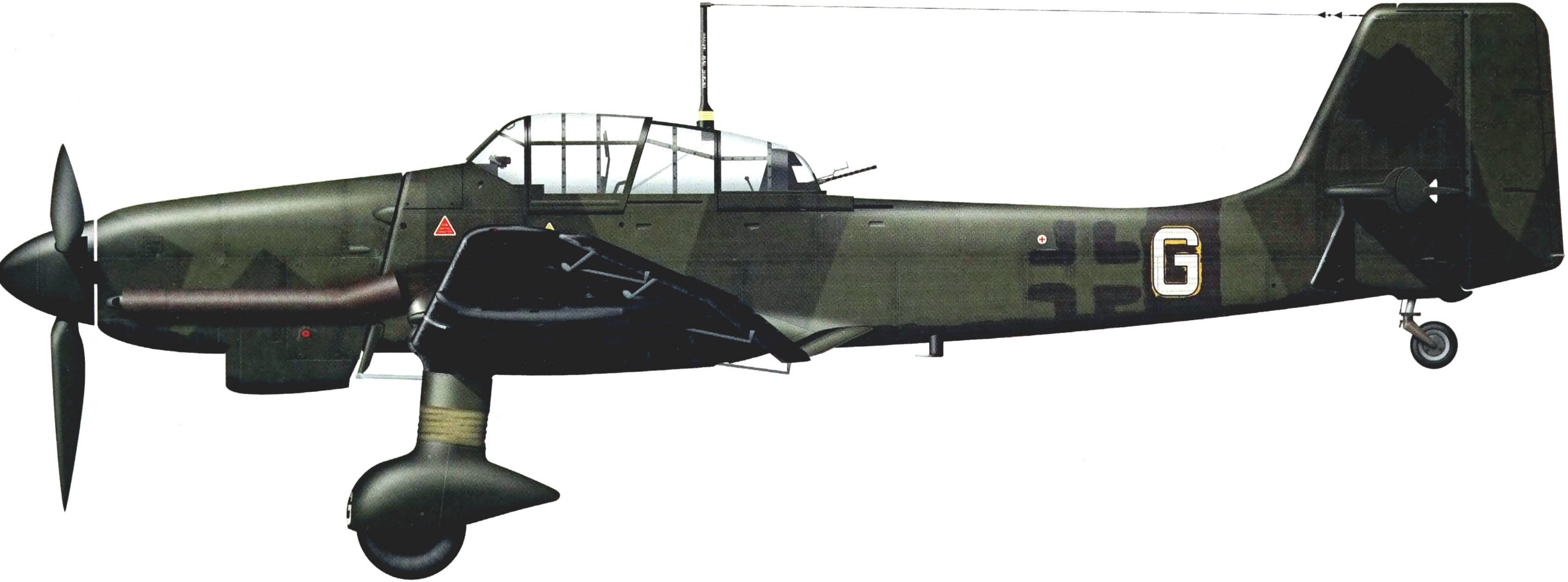
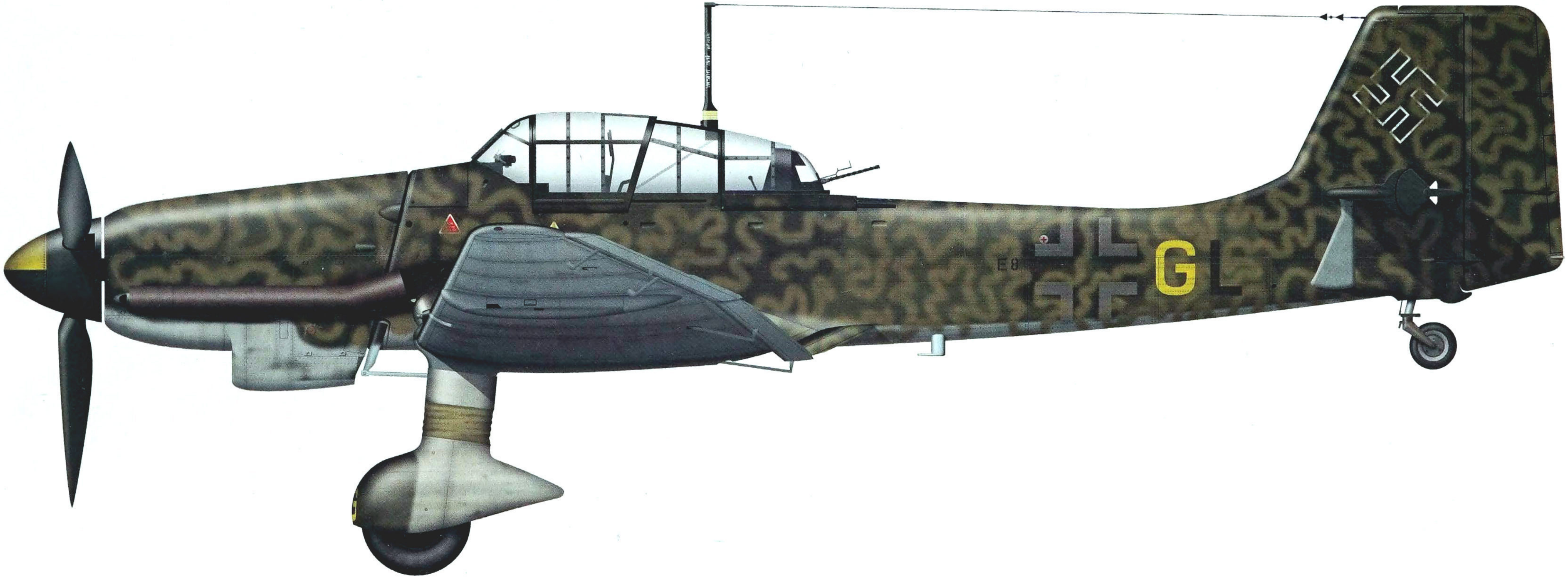


Junkers Ju 87D-3/N, unknown unit.

Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70 *Schwarzgrün* (Black-Green), RLM 71 *Dunkelgrün* (Dark Green) uppersurfaces and RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue) undersurfaces.

The national markings, lower sides and fuselage band were overpainted in black.

Source: Aders, Gebhard & Werner Held, *Stukas – Jagdbomber – Schlachtflieger – Bildchronik der deutschen Nahkampfflugzeuge bis 1945*, Motorbuchverlag, page 109

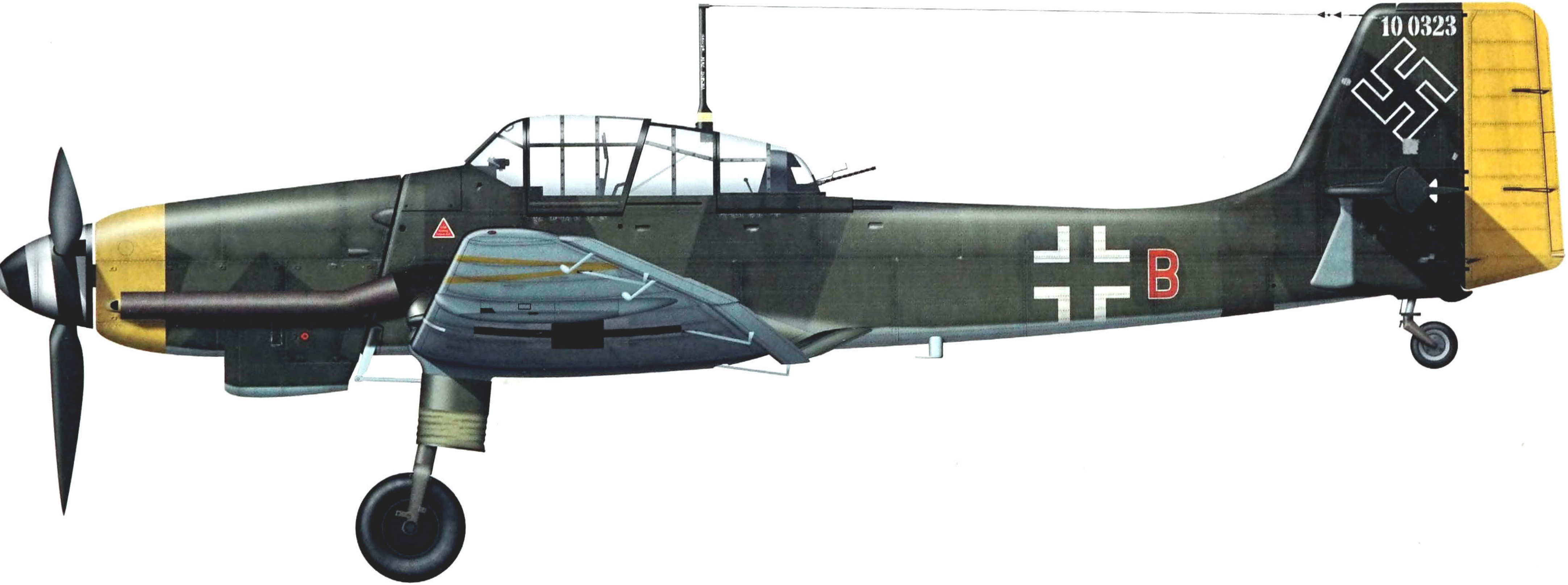


Junkers Ju 87D-3/N, E8+GL of 3./NSGr. 9.

Captured by Allied troops at Innsbruck-Hötting, Austria 1945.

The plane had a RLM 70/71/65 camouflage. The national crosses on the lower sides of the wings and the mainwheel fairings were overpainted in RLM 76. The uppersurfaces were overpainted in a "scribble" pattern of RLM 79.

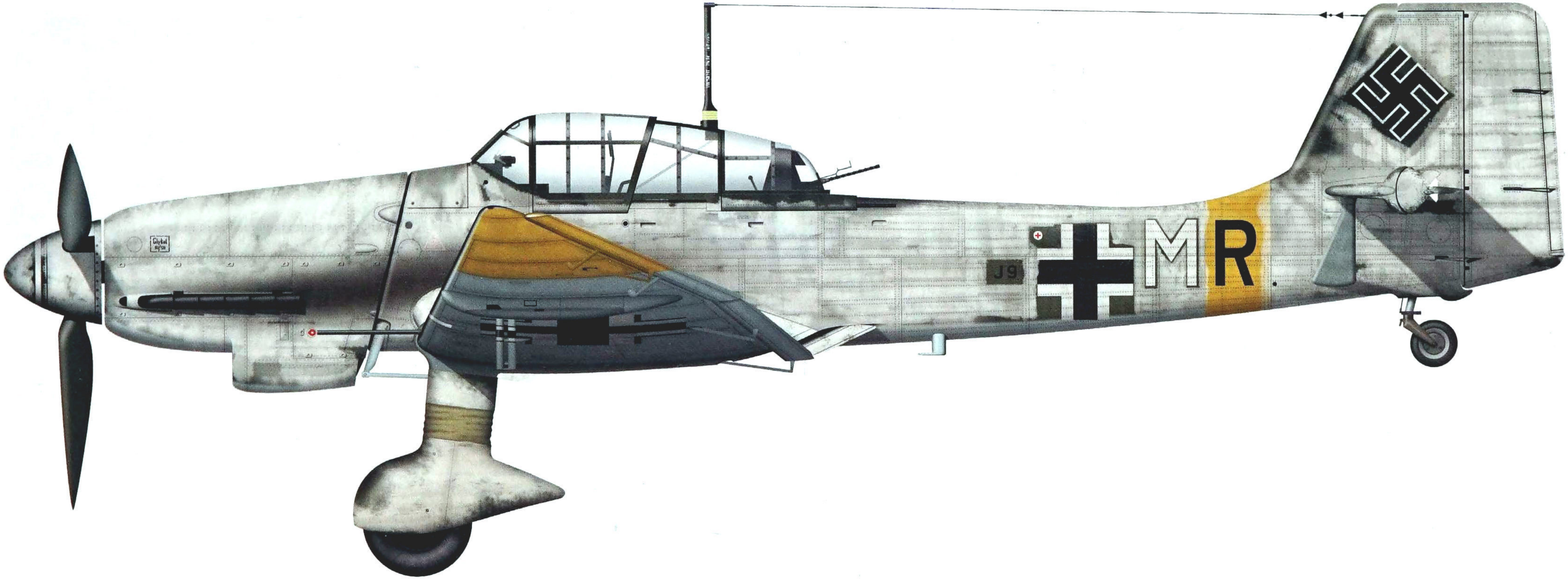
Source: Beale, Nick, *Ghost Bombers – The Moonlight War of NSG 9*, Classic Publications, page 183



Junkers Ju 87D-3/N, “Red B”, W.Nr. 100323 of 2./NSGr. 10.
The pilot of this Ju87D-3/N surrendered at Stuttgart-Echterdingen, May 8th 1945.

Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70/71/65 with yellow band around the nose, a yellow rudder and a yellow chevron on the port wing. For better handling the mainwheel fairings were removed.

Source: Smith, Peter C., *STUKA Volume Two – Luftwaffe Ju 87 Dive-Bomber Units 1942–1945*, Ian Allan Ltd, page 176

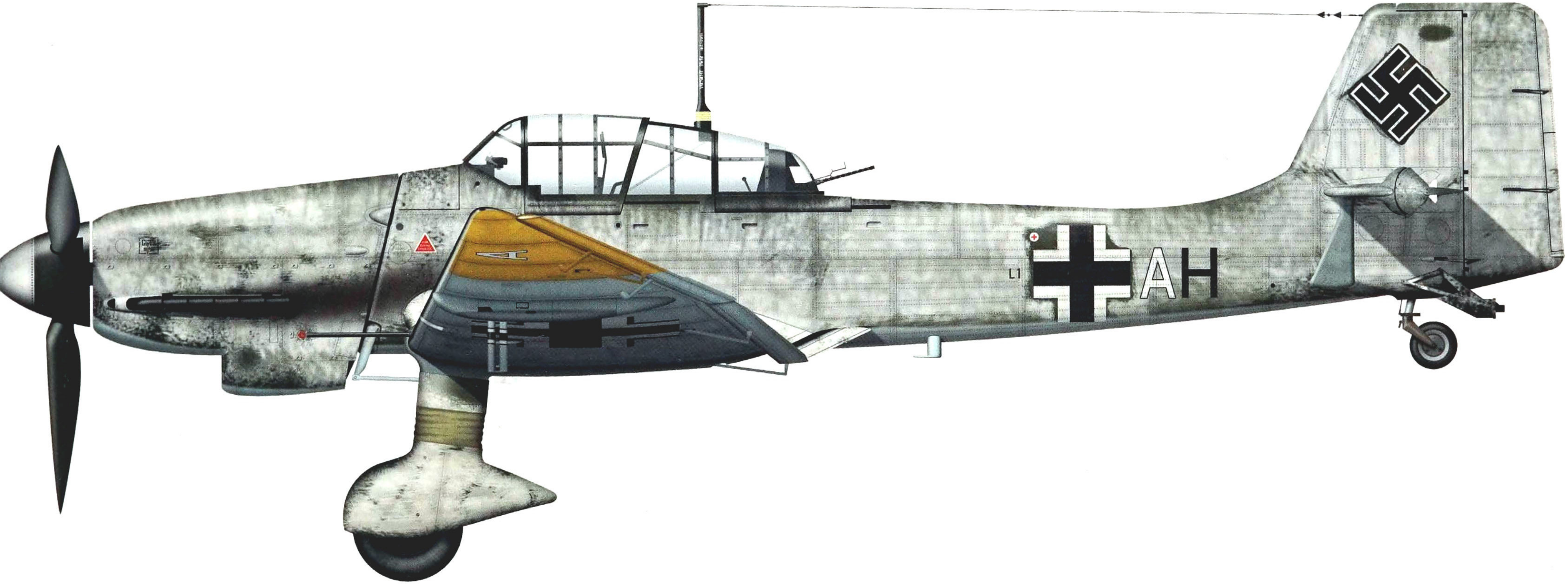


Junkers Ju 87D-5, J9+MR of 7./SG 1.

Russia, February 1944.

Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70 *Schwarzgrün* (Black-Green), RLM 71 *Dunkelgrün* (Dark Green), uppersurfaces and RLM 65 *Hellblau* (Light Blue) undersurfaces. It was overpainted with washable white paint.

Source: Murawski, Marek J., *Junkers Ju 87 vol. III*, Kagero, page 55



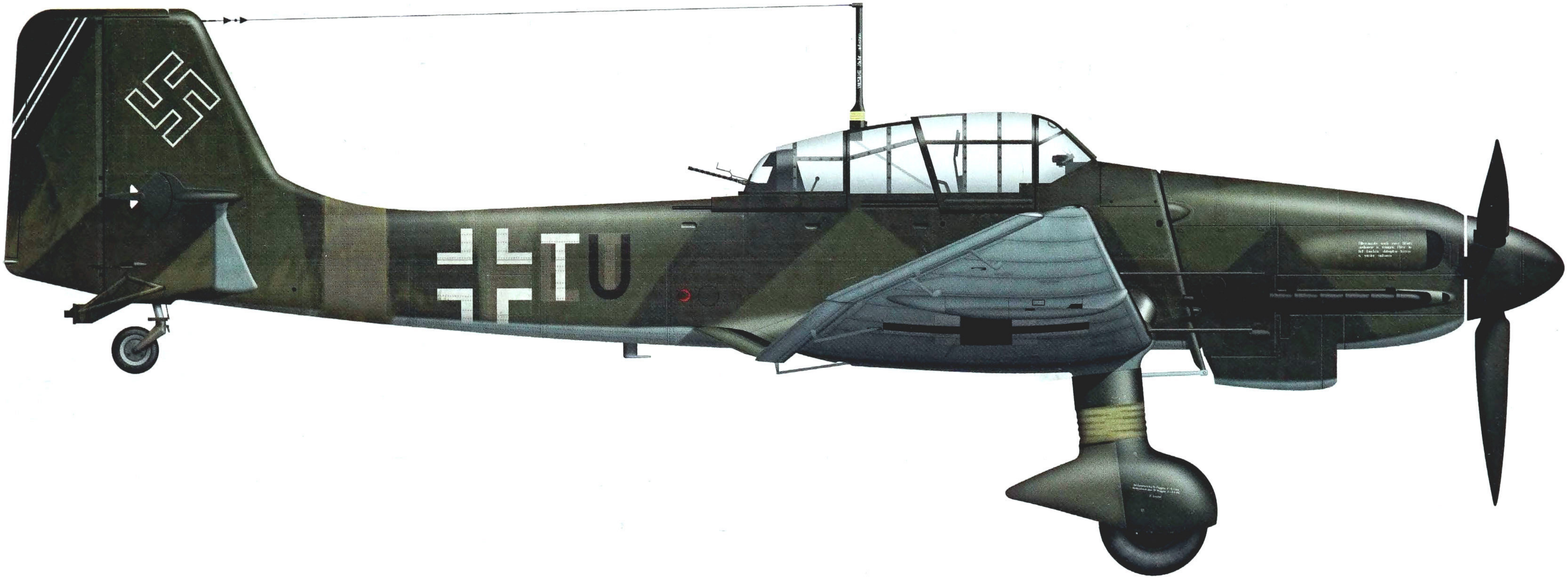
Junkers Ju 87D-5, L1+AH, of 1./SG 1.

Russia, February 1944.

Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70/71/65 overpainted with washable white paint.

Note the glider towing attachment on the rear fuselage.

Source: Murawski, Marek J., *Junkers Ju 87 vol. III*, Kagero, page 55

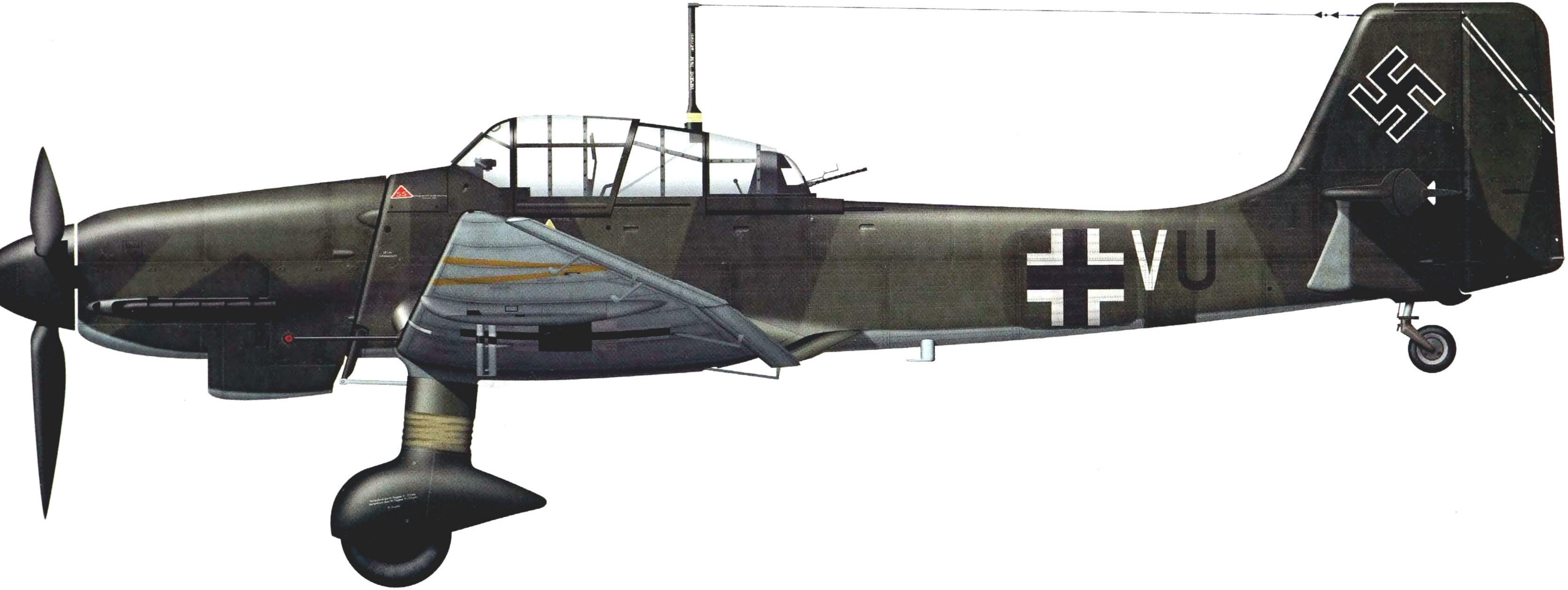


Junkers Ju 87D-5, +TU, of 10.(Pz)/SG 2.

Kitzingen, May 8th 1945.

Noticeable are the missing *Geschwader* call letters T6. Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70/71/65. Former markings and the fuselage band were overpainted with RLM 02. To increase the speed of the plane the dive brakes were removed. Note the glider towing attachment on the rear fuselage.

Source: Proulx, Mark, *Wings of the Black Cross Number Three*, Eagle Editions, page 24



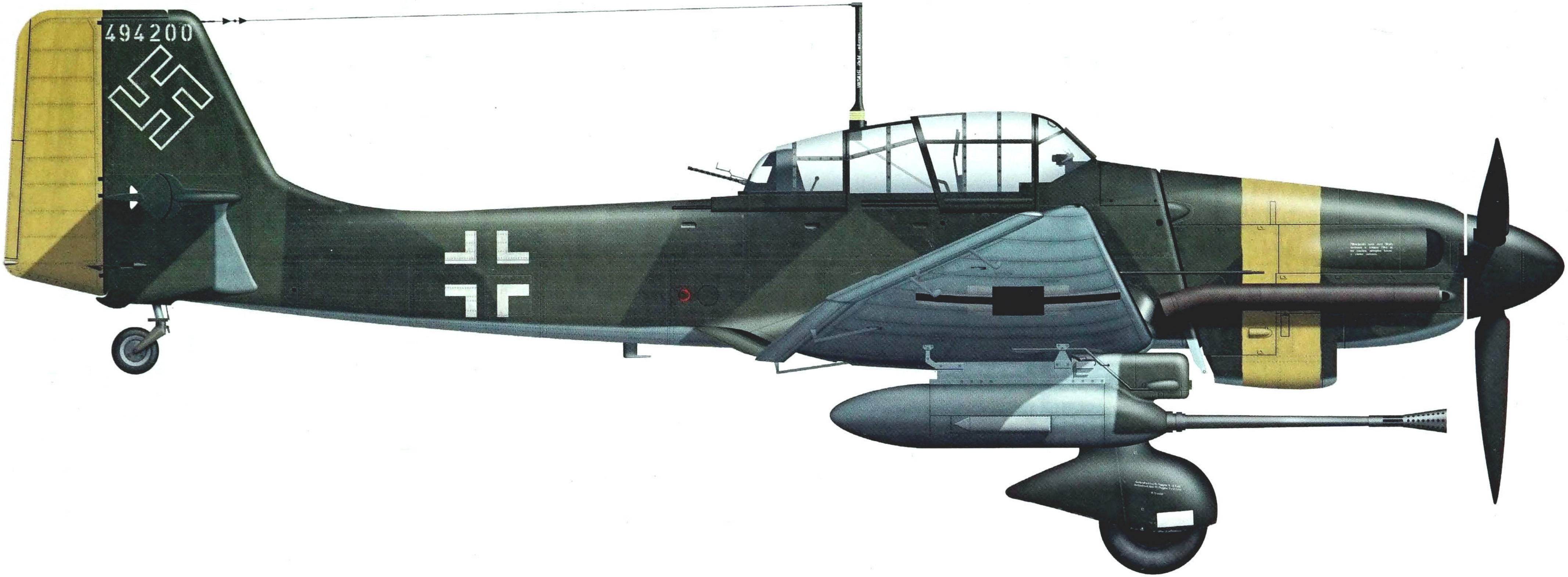
Junkers Ju 87D-5, +VU of 10.(Pz)/SG 2.

Flown by *Oblt*. Hans Schwirblatt, Kitzingen, May 8th 1945.

Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70/71/65. A yellow chevron was painted on the port wing

Noticeable are the missing *Geschwader* call letters T6.

Source: Proulx, Mark, *Wings of the Black Cross Number Three*, Eagle Editions, page 24



Junkers Ju 87G-2, W.Nr. 494200, unknown unit, *Luftflotte* 4.

Plzen, Czechoslovakia, May 1945.

Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70/71/65 with yellow band around the nose and a yellow rudder.

This aircraft was also fitted with flame dampers over the exhausts.

Source: Rajlich Jiri & Stanislav Kokoska & Ales Janda, *Luftwaffe over Czech Territory*, JAPO, page 66

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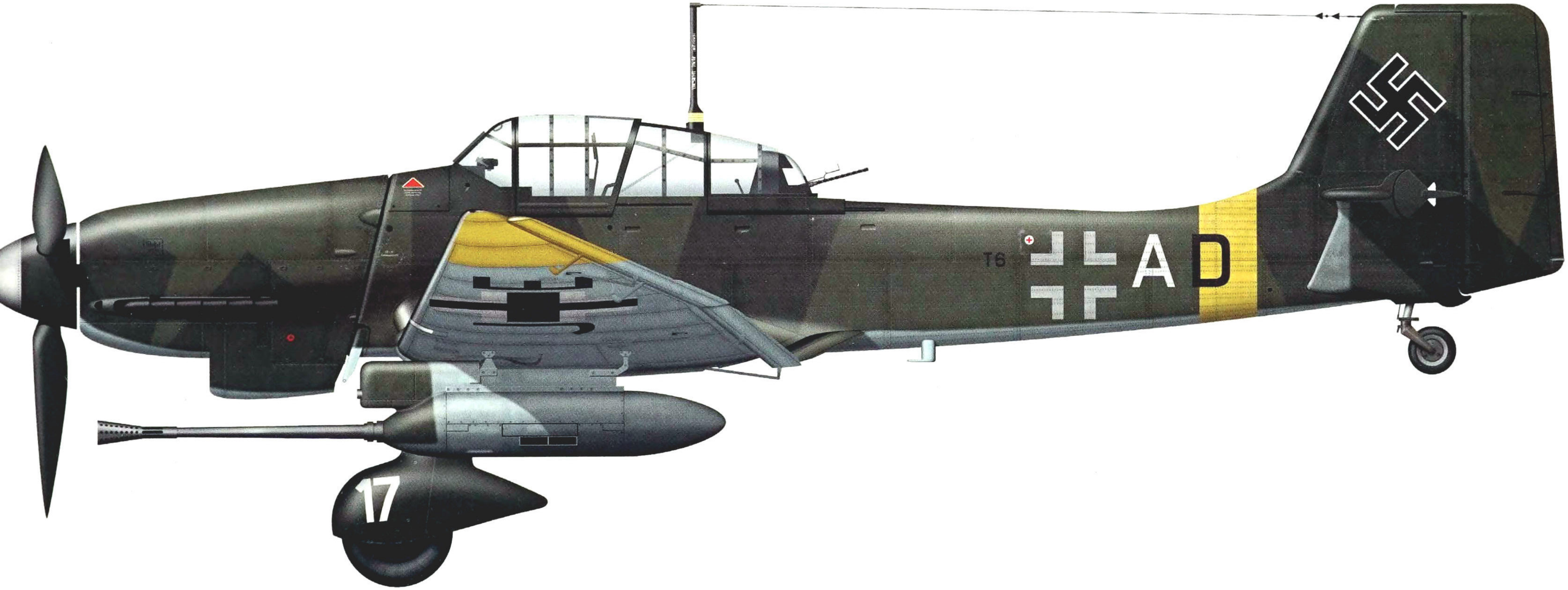
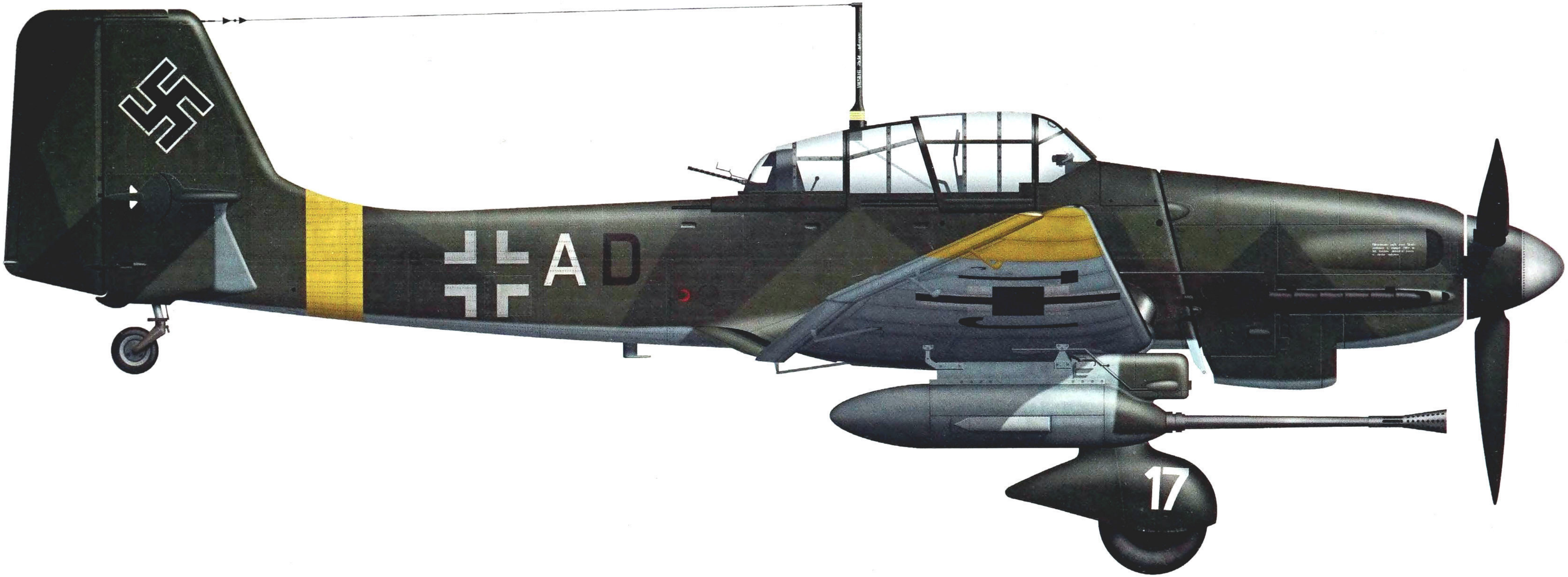


Junkers Ju 87G-2, T6+AD, STKZ TJ+JE of III./SG 2.

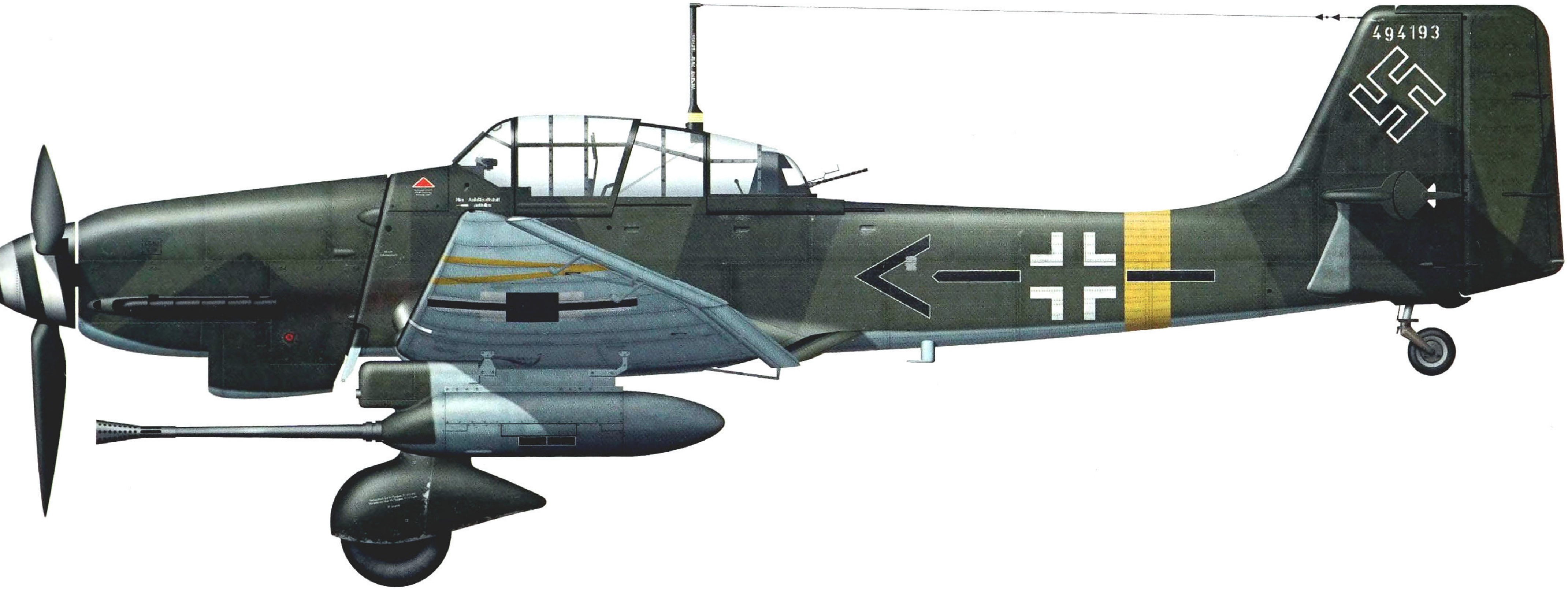
Flown by *Oberst* Hans Ulrich Rudel, Hungary, September 1944.

Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70/71/65 with yellow fuselage band and yellow wing tips.

Source: Steiner, Rolf, *Hans-Ulrich Rudel – Tuer de chars*, Aéro-Journal n° 37, page 21



Junkers Ju 87G-2, T6+AD, STKZ TJ+JE.

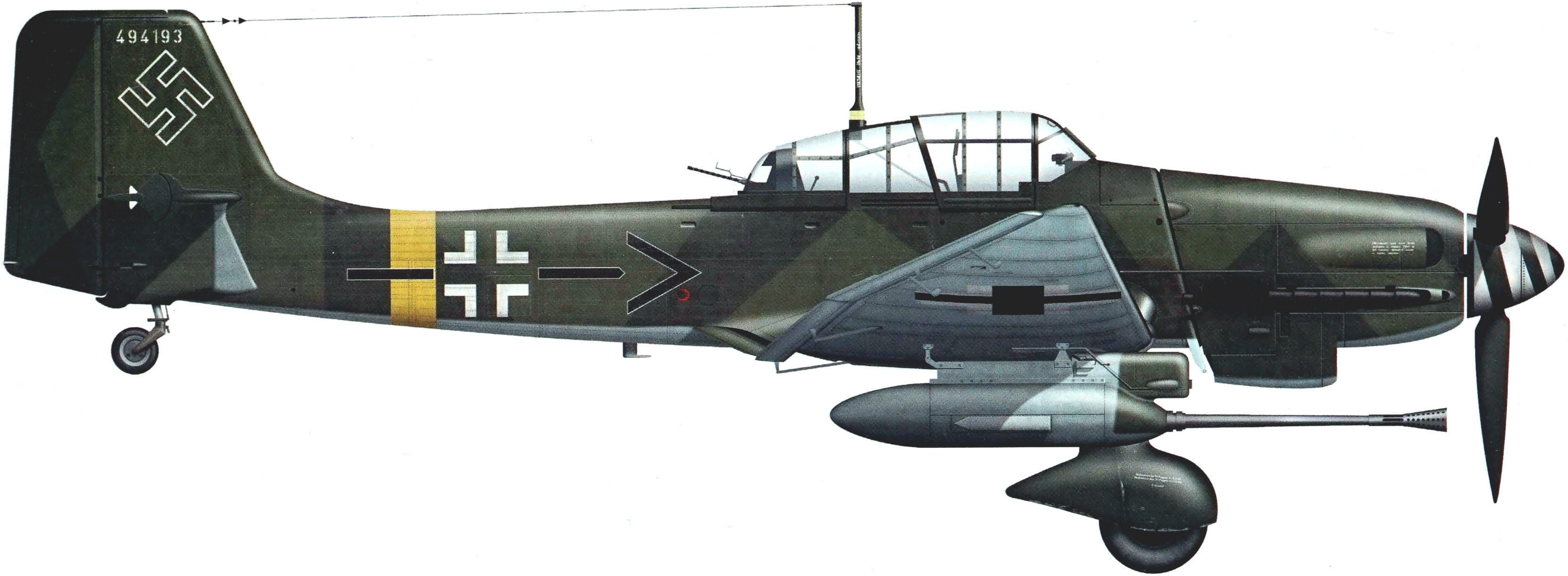


Junkers Ju 87G-2, <-+-, W.Nr. 494193 of 10.(Pz.)/SG 2.

Flown by *Oberst* Hans Ulrich Rudel, Eastern Front, 1945.

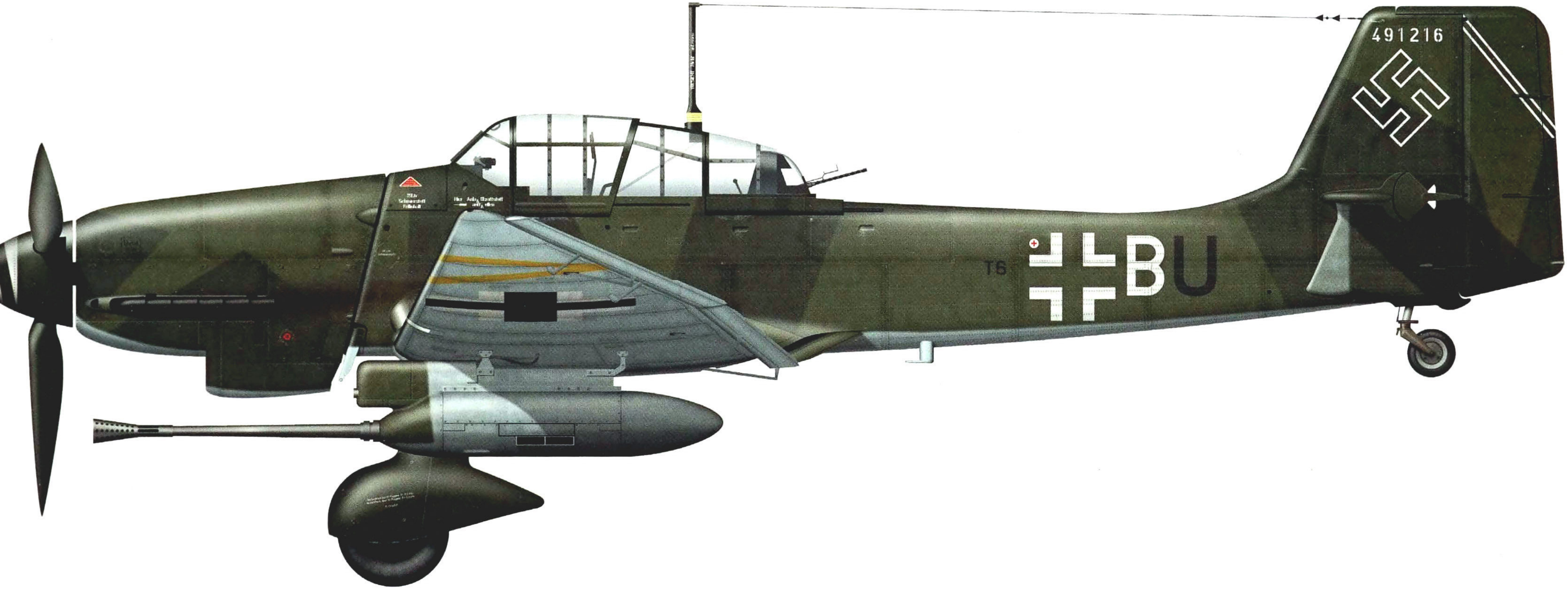
Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70/71/65 with yellow fuselage band and yellow wing chevron.

Source: Nauroth, *Holger Stukageschwader Immelmann*, Verlag K.W.Schütz, page 284



Junkers Ju 87G-2, <-+-, W.Nr. 494193.

Hans-Ulrich Rudel flew more than 2530 combat missions and destroyed 519 tanks, one battleship, one cruiser, one destroyer, 70 landing crafts, more than 800 vehicles, more than 150 artillery or antitank cannons and anti-aircraft guns, four armoured trains, numerous bridges and other supply points. He also achieved nine aerial victories. He was shot down more than 30 times.

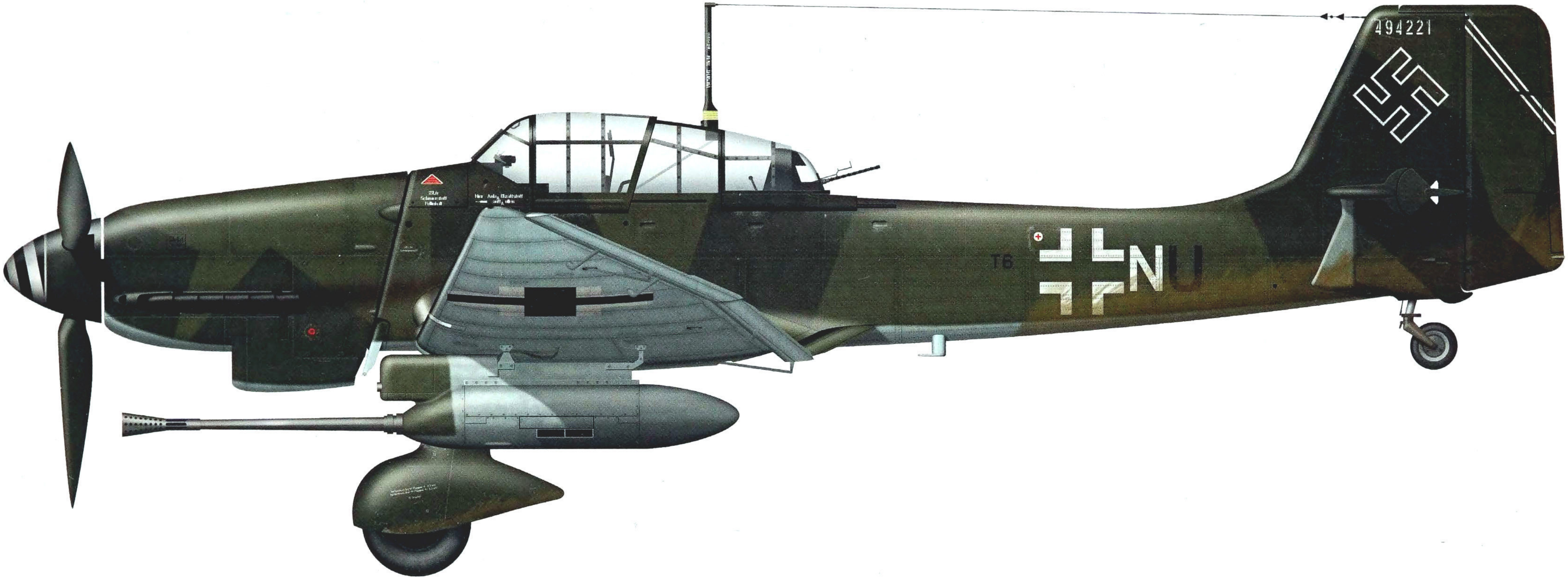


Junkers Ju 87G-2, T6+BU, W.Nr. 491216 of 10.(Pz)/SG 2.

Eastern Front 1945.

Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70/71/65. A yellow chevron was painted on the port wing.

Source: Nauroth, *Holger Stukageschwader Immelmann*, Verlag K.W.Schütz, page 284



Junkers Ju 87G-2, T6+NU, W.Nr. 494221 of 10.(Pz)/SG 2.

Eastern Front 1945.

Standard two-tone camouflage: RLM 70/71/65.

Source: Proulx, Mark, *Wings of the Black Cross Number Three*, Eagle Editions, page 26

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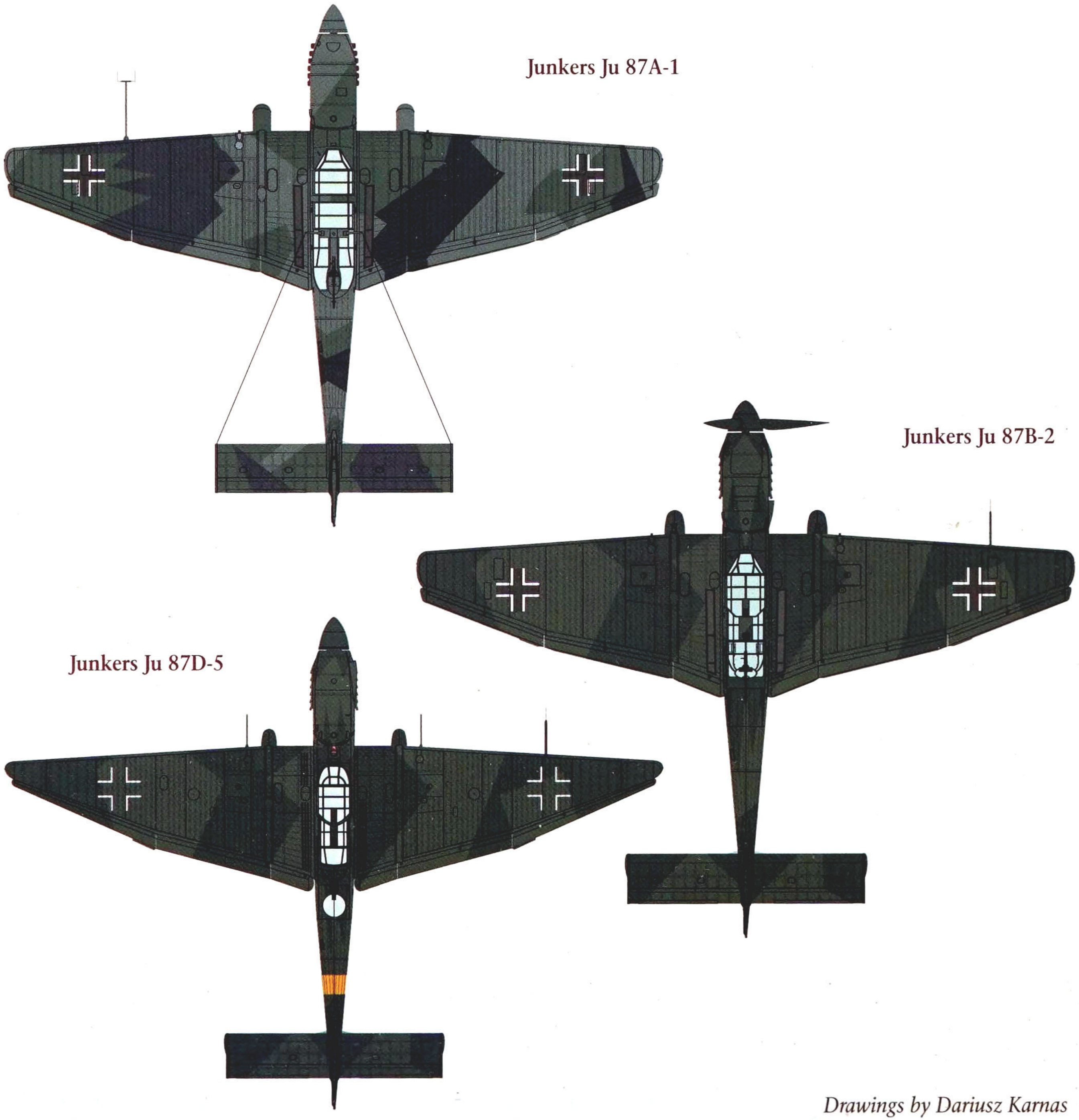

Junkers Ju 87A-1

Junkers Ju 87B-2

Junkers Ju 87D-5

Drawings by Dariusz Karnas

SIMON SCHATZ

Simon Schatz was born in Vienna, Austria, where he still lives and works as technical employee in an architect's office. Since childhood he has been interested in aviation, model building and painting. In the late 1990s he combined his passions and began to draw his first colour profiles. In 2002 his first colour profile, a Focke Wulf Fw 190, was published in an aviation book. Since then many more of his drawings have been published by well known publishing houses around the globe. A selection of his colour profiles can be found at his website www.luftwaffe.at.tf.

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